Monday March 27, 2006





GI Bill Programs





Montgomery GI Bill – Active Duty Chapter 30

- First entered active duty <u>after</u> 6/30/85 or entered active duty before 1/1/77 & remained on active duty until sometime after 7/1/85.
- Did not decline the MGIB or accepted it during an open season.
- Had military pay reduced by \$1,200.
- Entitlement is generally 36 months of full time benefits payments.
- Delimiting date is 10 years after last release from active duty.



MGIB – Active Duty Chapter 30

- Programs include college degrees, non-degree technical programs, flight training, correspondence courses, OJT & apprenticeship, licensing & certification exams.
- Claimants apply with VA Form 22-1990 and thereafter VA Form 22-1995 for subsequent programs.



Veterans Educational Assistance Program – VEAP Chapter 32

- First entered active duty between 1/1/77 and 6/30/85.
- Contributory program VA contributes \$2 for each
 \$1 contributed by service member.
- Monthly rate determined by amount contributed.
- Maximum entitlement is 36 months
- Delimiting date 10 years after discharge from active duty.
- Most Chapter 32 participants have converted to Chapter 30.



Dependents' Educational Assistance Program – DEA Chapter 35

- Child, spouse, surviving spouse of veteran who died in line of duty on active duty, is totally and <u>permanently</u> service-connected disabled, died of service-connected cause, or died while totally and <u>permanently</u> service-connected disabled.
- Entitlement is 45 months of full time payments.
- Delimiting date is 10 years from date of eligibility for spouses and 8 years from date of eligibility for children, but (for children) not beyond age 31.



Dependents' Educational Assistance Program – DEA Chapter 35

- Programs include college degrees, non-degree certificate programs, OJT & apprenticeship, and (for spouses/surviving spouses only) correspondence courses.
- Initial application is with VA Form 22-5490 and for subsequent programs VA Form 22-5495.



Montgomery GI Bill – Selected Reserve Chapter 1606

- Reservist who signed up for six years in ready reserve after 6/30/85.
- Entitlement is 36 months of full-time benefits.
- Delimiting date is the day they leave the ready reserves or 14 years (became eligible on or after 10/1/92) after they become eligible, whichever is <u>earlier</u>.
- Delimiting date can be extended and entitlement restored for active duty in Iraq.



Montgomery GI Bill – Selected Reserve Chapter 1606

- Programs that may be pursued are same as Chapter 30.
- Applications and subsequent programs are with same forms as Chapter 30



Reserve Educational Assistance Program - REAP Chapter 1607

- Reservists called to active duty on or after 9/11/01 under Title 10 for contingency operations for at least 90 consecutive days or more. National Guard eligible if called under Section 502(f), Title 32 USC and serve same period.
- Entitlement is 36 months of full time benefits.
- Pays percentage of MGIB based on length of active duty service. Same programs as MGIB.
- No delimiting date if member continues to participate in reserves.



Reserve Educational Assistance Program - REAP Chapter 1607

- Programs approved are same as Chapter 30.
- Application is with VA Form 22-1990 annotated at top of form in big block letters, Chapter 1607.
- Applications are currently being accepted by the RPO's and held pending the issuance of final rules and procedures by DOD and VA.



Questions?



Duties of a School Certifying Official

What have I gotten my self into??!!





Basic Responsibilities

- Keep VA informed of the enrollment status of veterans and other eligible persons.
- Keep SAA informed of new programs, changes in programs, institutional changes, etc.
- Apprise supervisors of any internal problems which may affect service to VA students.
- Keep up to date on current VA rules and benefits.
- Assist VA students in applying for education benefits.
- Maintain records of VA students and make available for inspection.



Keep VA Informed of Each Student's Enrollment Status

- Basic forms to use are:
 - Enrollment Certification (VAF 22-1999)
 - Notice of Change in Student Status (VAF 22-1999B)
- Must report all enrollments and changes within 30 days.
- May use paper forms or electronic enrollment (VA-ONCE).



Keep VA Informed of Each Student's Enrollment Status

- Must monitor unit subjects pursued to certify to VA only those subjects which apply to the student's program.
- Must monitor student's grades to insure (s)he is making satisfactory progress and report unsatisfactory progress.
- Must monitor student's conduct and report when student is suspended/dismissed for unsatisfactory conduct.



Keep SAA Advised of School Changes

• New programs and changes in current programs.

- Changes in academic policies and procedures.
- Changes of address, phone numbers, certifying officials.

Any other information the SAA requires.



Keep Supervisors Apprised of Internal Problems

- Failure of records office to inform you of grades, grade changes, academic problems, etc.
- Failure of instructors to inform you of attendance/attendance problems.
- Failure of other offices to inform you of new programs, changes in current programs, etc.
- Failure of mail distribution center to forward appropriate mail to your office.



Keep Informed of VA Rules & Policies

- Give e-mail address to ELR to be included on listsery.
- Read and maintain VA bulletins.
- Read and keep in a safe place your copy of the Handbook.
- Attend VA and SAA training opportunities.
- Enroll in VA on-line training.



Assist VA Students

- Maintain copies of appropriate application forms.
- When asked, help veterans & dependents fill out and send in applications.

• If student cannot resolve pay problems, assist through VA channels designated for school officials.



Assist VA Students

 Disseminate and/or post information on VA education benefits and programs, and contact points.

• Insure that VA students are fully aware of their responsibilities to the school and VA.



Maintain Student VA Records & Make Available to VA & SAA

- Retain file of VA papers submitted & records of academic progress, program pursuit, etc.
- Maintain records for at least three years following the student's last date of attendance.
- Insure that your records are kept in a safe place and that the privacy of your VA students is protected.
- Make available all school records (VA & non-VA) to representatives of the SAA and VA.



Questions?



VA Terminology

8

You Said What??!!

Acronyms





Acronyms

- BDN Benefits Delivery Network, our veterans' computer database.
- ECSS Education Compliance Survey Specialist, our auditors.
- **ELR E**ducation **L**iaison Representative, the primary VA education expert in each state.
- IHL Institution of Higher Learning, colleges and universities and programs.



Acronyms

- NCD Non College Degree, vocational and technical schools and programs.
- MGIB Montgomery GI Bill
- OLAF On Line Approval File, our VA database of school approval information.
- RPO Regional Processing Office, the VA office which processes GI Bill education claims.
- TIMS The Information Management System, the document imaging system in each RPO.



- Enrollment Cert VA Form 22-1999 Enrollment Certification used to tell VA about each student's program, pursuit, etc.
- **Notice of Change** VA Form 22-1999b Notice of Change in Student Status used to tell VA about any change in a student's enrollment.
- **Program** the degree, certificate, or diploma the student is pursuing.
- **Unit Subject** the individual classes the student is taking to achieve his/her goal. Schools often call them courses, but VA essentially equates courses and programs, i.e., course of study.
- **Term** can be a semester or quarter and includes individual sessions within a term, e.g., a summer term could include up to three sessions.



- VA-ONCE: Our Web based program that allows schools to certify VA enrollments electronically.
- Drop-Add: Found on the VAF 22-1999b, it really means Drop period, the period during which a student can drop a course without academic penalty, for VA purposes also cannot exceed 30 days. Not the same thing as a school's drop-add period, usually the first week of classes when students can freely drop or add courses without academic or financial penalty.



- Guest Student a student who's not pursuing a program at your school, but is only taking unit subjects to be transferred into a program at another school.
- Veteran for VA purposes this is anyone who has served at least one day of regular active duty (not active duty for training) in the armed forces of the U.S. and was discharged with other than a dishonorable discharge.



- Entitlement The number of months of full time benefits remaining to a veteran or dependent.
- Delimiting Date Use it or lose it date, the date on which an eligible person loses all the entitlement (s)he hasn't used.
- Confirmed Enrollment An enrollment certification which is signed and sent to VA on or after the first day of the period being certified for enrollment, i.e., the first day of the term.



Questions?



U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs

State Approving Agencies





The Original GI Bill VA Regional Processing Office Public Law 78-346

- •Signed by President Franklin D. Roosevelt on June 22, 1944.
- •VA to determine veteran eligibility make payments
- States to determine at which schools those veterans could use their benefits



What Does The VA Do?

- Determines veteran eligibility.
 - Makes payments under the various GI Bill programs.
 - Contracts with each state to approve programs.
 - Reimburses each state for all expenses.
 - Reviews approvals submitted by SAA.



What Does an ELR Do?

- Conducts Compliance Surveys.
 - Reviews approvals received from the SAA and approve those programs for which the SAA declines approval authority.
 - Conducts liaison with school officials:
 - Answer technical questions
 - Conduct liaison visits
 - Conduct annual school workshop, June 21-23, 2004 Tradewinds Island Grand Resort, St. Pete Beach



What Does The SAA Do?

- Reviews school/program applications for state and federal requirements.
- Visits school sites to determine that they can provide the training.
- Approves programs and notifies schools and VA of the approval.
- Investigates & resolves complaints against schools.
- Performs outreach as necessary.



Remember

- VA is a FEDERAL agency which determines whether or not a veteran, dependent, or reservist is eligible for the GI Bill.
- Each SAA is a STATE agency which determines whether or not a school or program can be approved for veterans.









A PARTNERSHIP OF THE SEVERAL STATES AND THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT FOR THE PURPOSE OF SERVING THOSE WHO HAVE SERVED US.



Questions?



Compliance Surveys





What is a Compliance Survey?

- A. It's another way Big Brother has to keep track of who's being naughty or nice.
 - B. They part of an insidious plot to assist the pharmaceutical industry by keeping you on tranquilizers
 - C. It is our part of the CIA's training program for spooks.
 - D. VA's program to insure the integrity of the GI Bill and help schools serve their veteran students.



How Often Do We Conduct Them?

- A. Whenever we jolly well feel like it.
 - B. We use a state map mounted on a cork board and throw darts. You get hit, you get picked.
 - C. We use a complicated formula which involves the use of two Cray Supercomputers and the cooperation of the National Magnetic Laboratory at Florida State University.
 - D. Once every three years or more often if needed. Flight schools once each year.



How Do We Select Schools For our Compliance Survey Schedule?

- A. We keep a list of those school officials who forgot to send us our Holiday cheer and add them to the schedule for that year.
 - B. You say something bad about us, you will be visited.
 - C. Seminoles pick Gators, Yellow Jackets pick Bulldogs, Blue Devils pick Tar Heels, etc.
 - D. New schools are surveyed once they enroll their first VA students.
 Thereafter, generally once every three years.



How Do We Arrange Our Visit To Your Campus?

- A. We check your calendar and your vacation schedule to pick the most inconvenient time for you.
 - B. We break into your office one night and wait for you to show up the next morning.
 - C. While we're in town we give you call with our cell phone and tell you that we're on our way.
 - D. We schedule all schools in advance, trying to avoid busy periods where possible. We call you a week or two in advance to make an appointment and follow up with a confirmation letter.



How Do We Select the Student Files That We Review?

- A. We ask the Atlanta RPO to give us the cases which cause them the most headaches.
 - B. We pick the whiners.
 - C. We use a complicated formula involving artillery trajectory tables and the total number of uses of hydrogen hydroxide.
 - D. We randomly select an appropriate number of cases from a listing of the VA students currently receiving benefits at your school.

What Do We Review at VA Regional Processing Office Institutions of Higher Learning?

- A. We don't review anything we write our report before we get there.
 - B. We review transcripts and drop slips along with your copies of VA paperwork to insure the propriety of payments.
 - C. We review your tuition payment ledger to determine that veterans do not pay more than non-veterans.
 - D. We review our records of tutorial assistance, advertising, work study contracts, & interview work study students.



What Do We Review at Non College Degree Schools?

- A. We do a white glove inspection of your auto repair and small gas engine programs.
 - B. We review the same records as at IHL's with the exception of tutorial assistance.
 - C. We review attendance records to insure that approved standards of attendance are being enforced.
- D. We conduct a detailed taste test of the food prepared in your culinary arts program.



What Do We Do When We Find Errors?

- A. We have "Enforcers" to deal with certifying officials who make mistakes.
 - B. We put a lien on your home or we take your first born child.
 - C. For the proper "gratuity" we don't find any mistakes.
 - D. We discuss each error with you as we find them. Once the visit is completed we sit down with you to go over our findings. After our return to the office, an official letter detailing our findings is mailed to your school's chief officer.



How Long Must We Keep Records?

- A. For one year after the student's last date of attendance, then it must be laminated and stored in a hermetically sealed jar on Funk & Wagnall's porch.
 - B. Such records may be disposed only on the Monday after any date that the Florida Legislature adjourns with a budget on time without a special session.
 - C. You can look it up in Title 38, Code of Federal Regulations, Book G, Subpart D, Paragraph 21.4209, Subparagraph (f).
 - D. For three years after each VA student's last date of attendance.



Authorization to View Student Records

Title 38 United States Code, Section 3690(c)

Notwithstanding any other provision of law, the records and accounts of educational institutions pertaining to eligible veterans or eligible persons....as well as the records of other students which the Secretary determines necessary to ascertain institutional compliance with the requirements of such chapters, shall be available for examination by duly authorized representatives of the Government.



Questions?



Basic Form Completion





VA Form 22-1999 Enrollment Certification

Identifying Information Items 1-4

• Items 1 - 4

- Full name of student, including middle initial
- VA file number of veteran. For chapter 35 dependents this will be either the SSN or Cnumber of the veteran
- Make sure the address is current



Program Identification Items 5 - 7

- **Item 5** -**B**e sure to check the correct block for the student's **current** program.
- Item 6 Be sure the name of program is exactly what has been approved by the SAA
- Item 7 Credit allow toward <u>current</u> program only
 - Do <u>not</u> list all credits transferred unless all count towards current program
 - If not yet available, state "Pending". Pending status should be used for <u>no more than two</u> <u>full quarters, semesters, terms</u>.



Enrollment Data Items 8 - 12

- Item 8 A & B List each term/enrollment period.
 - IHL's show beginning and ending dates of <u>each</u>
 term as approved by the SAA
 - NCD's show <u>beginning and ending of course</u>, unless on term basis (certify same as IHL's)
- Item 9
 - A Semester or Quarter hours for each term
 - B Hours of secondary level courses (ch 35)
 - C IGNORE



Advance Pay

- Must be signed by student or (if electronic transmission) state that signature is on file.
- School must sign agreement with ELR to participate
- Must agree to hold checks in safe place and deliver to student upon registration.



Certifications

- Be sure that the person signing the form is listed as a school certifying official on VA Form 22-8794 (Designation of Certifying Officials)
- Item 16A or B: please also include your e-mail address if you have one.
- **Item 16D:** can be no earlier than the first day of the enrollment period certified unless the student is chapter 30 or 1606, or is returning from the immediately preceding term and had been pursuing at least half time.



VA Form 22-1999b Notice of Change in Student Status

ITEM 4 - TERMINATION

- **Item 4A** The date the student actually last attended class.
- **Item 4B** Withdrawal or interruption (non-college) NCD PROGRAMS
- Item 4B Withdrawal during drop period Period during which student can drop a class without academic penalty. For VA purposes it cannot exceed 30 days.
- **Item 4B** With after drop non punitive grades: Grades such as W, X, NP, etc.
- **Item 4B** With after drop punitive grades: Grades such as WF, F, etc.
- **Item 4B** All others self-explanatory



Enrollment Data Items 8 - 12

- Item 10 For NCD programs, clock hours of attendance per week.
- Item 11 Tuition & Fees, less than half time and active duty students.
- Item 12 Training time to be completed by GRADUATE SCHOOLS ONLY. All others do NOT complete.



Item 5 – Adjustment of Credit or Clock Hours

- **Item 5A** Date adjustment was effective, usually last date attended a particular class(es)
- **Item 5B** Increase (self explanatory)
- **Item 5B** Reduction (non-college): NCD programs
- **Item 5B** Reduction first day of term: Usually when student fails to register for a course.
- **Item 5B** Reduction During Drop Period: Same as 4B
- Item 5B Red After Drop NP Grades Assigned Same as 4B
- **Item 5B** Red After Drop Punitive Grades Assigned Same as 4B
- Item 5B Student Completed Term, But Non-Punitive Grades...
 Student awarded end of term W, or NP, X, etc.
- Item 5B Other



Item 5 – Adjustment of Credit or Clock Hours

- **Item 5C & D** Credit Hours Before & After Adjustment What it says.
- **Item 5E** Training Time After Adjustment ONLY filled in for graduate and advanced professional (law, medical, etc.) students.
- **Item 5F & G** Clock Hours Before & After Adjustment What it says.
- **Item 5H** Revised Ending Date For NCD students
- Item 6A & B Charges for Period of Enrollment These are charges for this period AFTER the adjustment. Includes total tuition and fees charged to student.



Item 7 - Mitigating Circumstances Item 8 - Remarks

- **Item 7** Mitigating Circumstances If the student gives a reason **(ANY REASON)** for the change, whether a complete drop of all courses or a reduction in number of credit hours, check YES.
- Item 8 Remarks This is used primarily for mitigating circumstances. Give as complete a description of the circumstances as possible, including dates, references, etc. If student has documentation for the circumstances, also state "Documentation on file." If the reason was call to active military duty, then state, "Call to active federal military service documentation on file." The proper documentation in such a case would be a copy of the student's orders.



Questions?







VA Regional Processing Office 2006 CONFERENCE





The Memorandum of Understanding

- The MOU is an agreement between your school and VA.
- An MOU can be downloaded from www.gibill.va.gov/School_Info/once
- A signed MOU must be received by your ELR before you will be issued a password for VA-ONCE.
- The MOU must be signed by someone from the school who has the authority to enter into a legal contract for the school.
- The MOU should be mailed not faxed.
- You can then access the VA-ONCE site from the same web address noted above.







Welcome to VA-ONCE

What is VA-ONCE? VA-ONCE is a new, enhanced alternative for submitting VA Forms 22-1999, 22-16 Internet based application. A team of schools and RPO representatives helped to develop the requirem

What is needed to run VA-ONCE? To use VA-ONCE, you must be using a recent version of either the N higher) or Netscape Navigator (NN v6.02 or higher) browsers.

What is needed to submit forms using VA-ONCE? Your school must submit a Memorandum of Underst an MOU, please contact the <u>VA-ONCE VBA Representative</u> to acquire one. After submission and revie Representative (ELR) will be contacting you with the appropriate login information. Otherwise, please cl

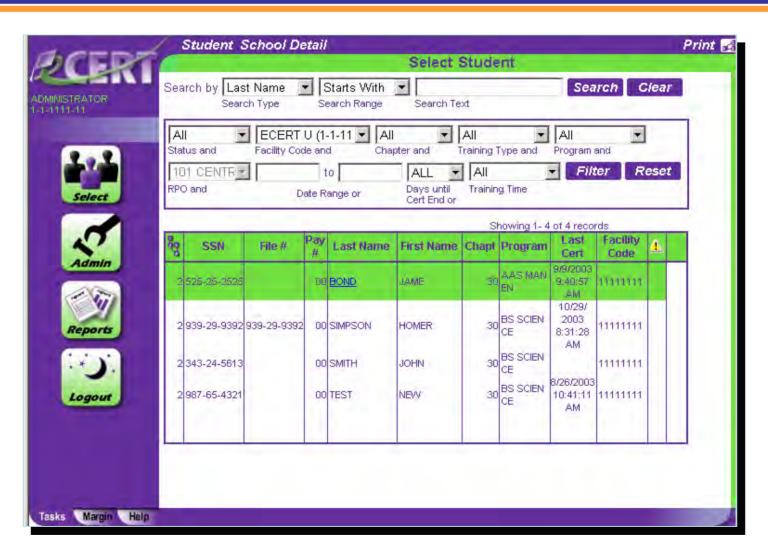
Start VA-ONCE

Start VA-ONCE using text only mode (This only applies to the login screen. If you would like to set text-on VA-ONCE, you can find an option for it in user preferences)



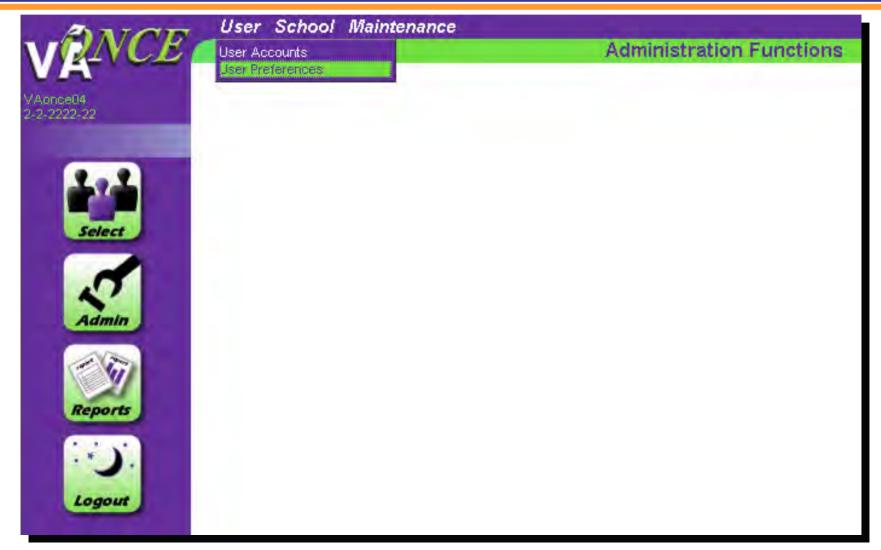






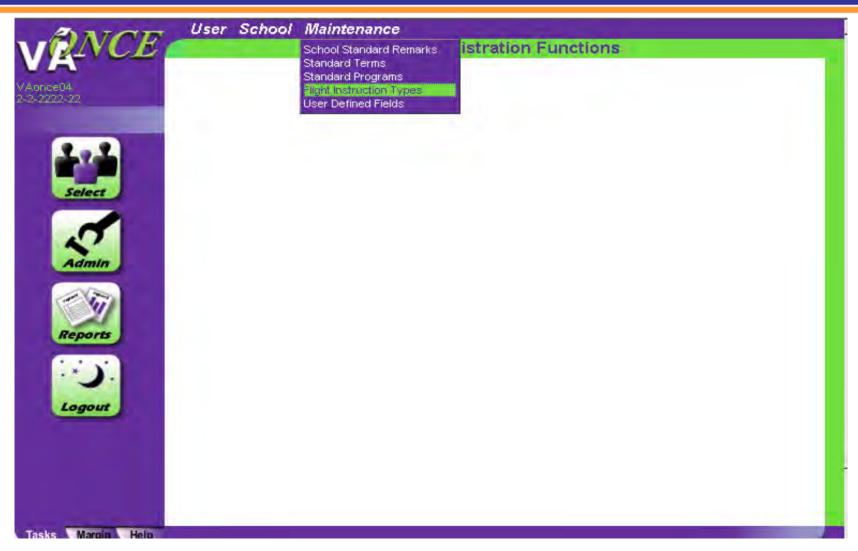






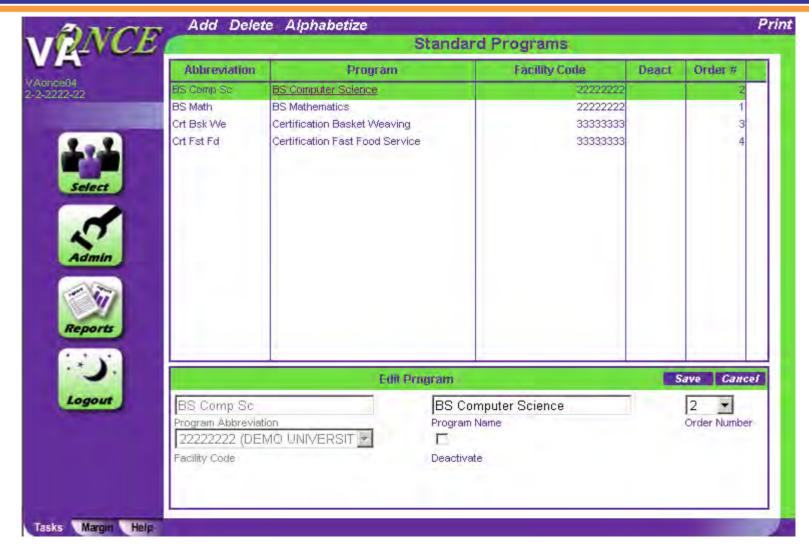














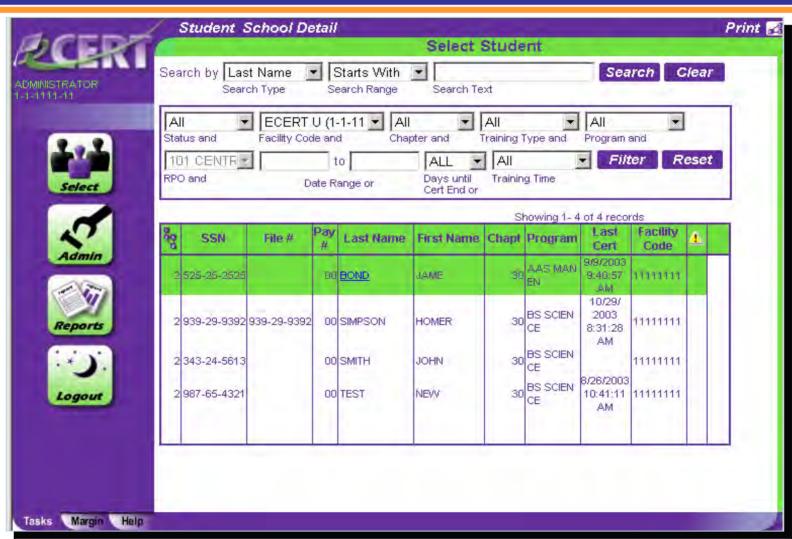


Standard Terms									
Term Name	Facility Code	Begin Date	End Date	Drop Date	Break Days	Order#	Deact		
spring 03	<u>11111111</u>	06/15/2003	07/15/2003			2			
Fall 03	11111111	08/16/2003	12/14/2003			1			
Fall 03a	22221111	08/20/2003	12/17/2003			3			
Fall 03a	11111111	08/20/2003	12/17/2003	08/21/2003		4			

	Edit Term	Save Cancel
spring 03 Term Name*		2 VOOR OF OUT OF OUT OF OUT OF OUT
11111111 (ECERT UNIVERSITY Facility Code	IHL)	
06/15/2003	07/15/2003	
Begin Date*	End Date* Semester	Drop Date
Break Days	Term Type*	Deactivated

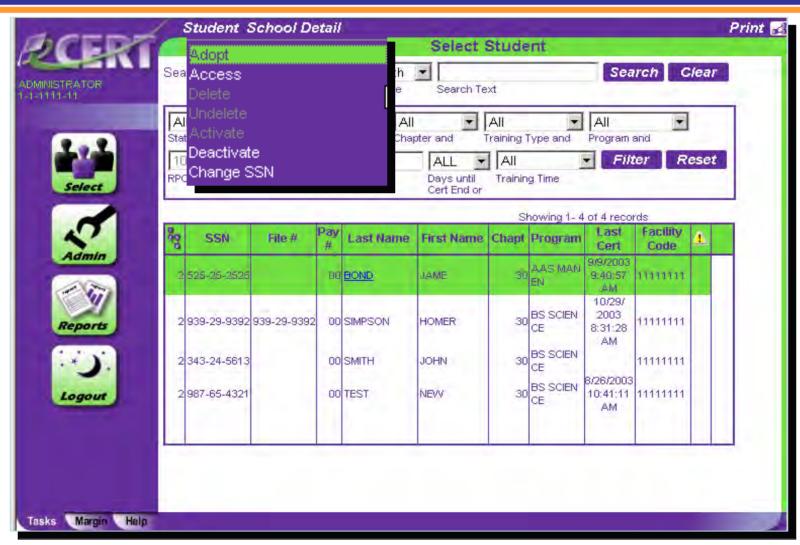






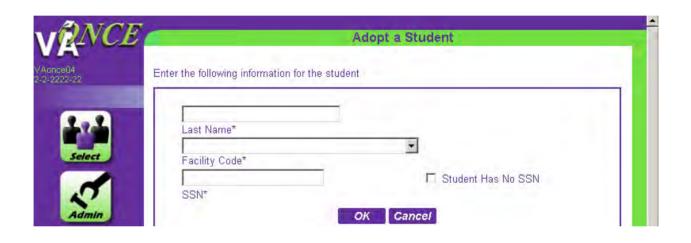












This student exists at the another school, but not the current school. The system will allow you to adopt. If this is the student you want to adopt, click "OK" to continue. Or, click "Cancel" to return to the student select page.

First Name	Middle Name	Last Name	School Facility Code	School Name	School Status
HOMER		SIMPSON	1-1-1111-11	ECERT UNIVERSITY IHL	W

OK -

Cancel

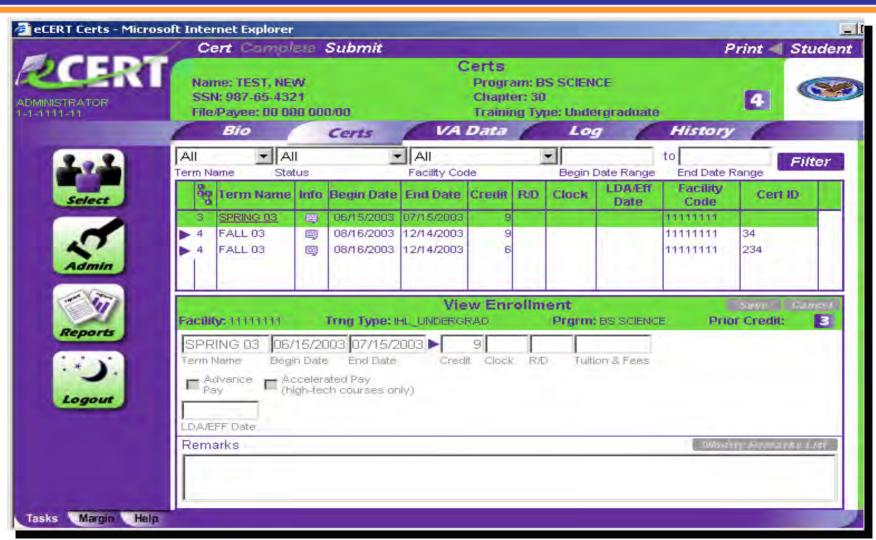




ECEN duhorse -4-9264-46	SSN: 211-15-2176 File/Payee: 00 000 000/	Bio Data Program: Chapter: Training Type:	Save Cancel Print Student	
Select	Salutation First Name* 211-15-2176 SSN* Student ID	MOORE Middle Name Last Name* Address	Suffix Location Domestic	<u></u>
Admin	File Number Payee# Chap Training Type* 1-4-9264-46 School Short Name Facility Code	ter* City* Zip* Zip Si	State*	
Reports	Program* Prior Training Credit* Guest Student Active Duty	Phone Email Notes	Extension	3
	Primary School Name User Def 1 User Def 2	User Def 3	User Def 4	

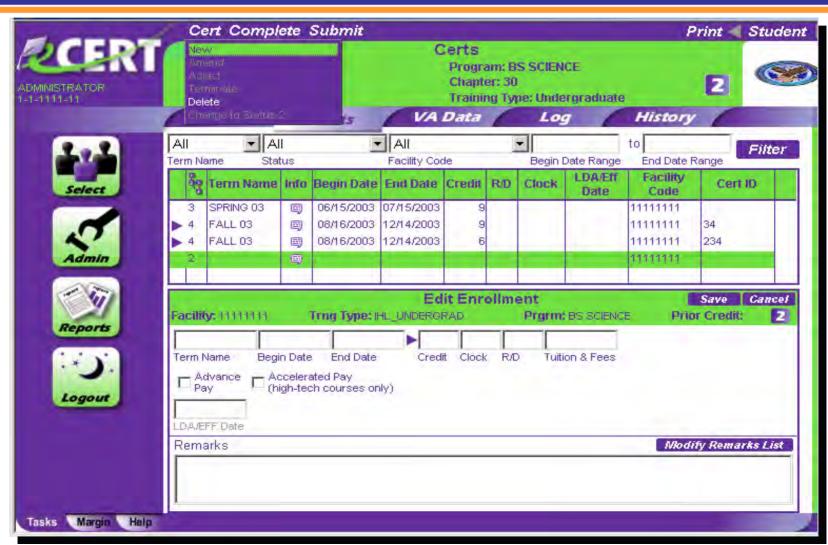






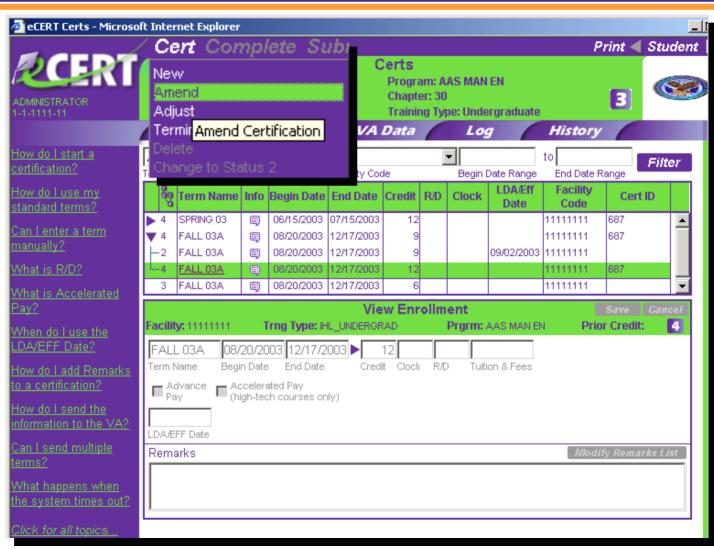






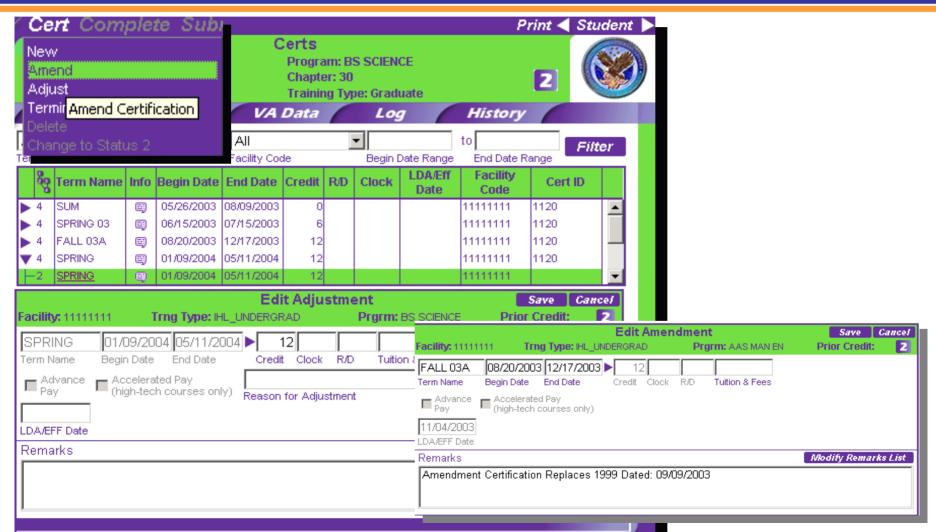






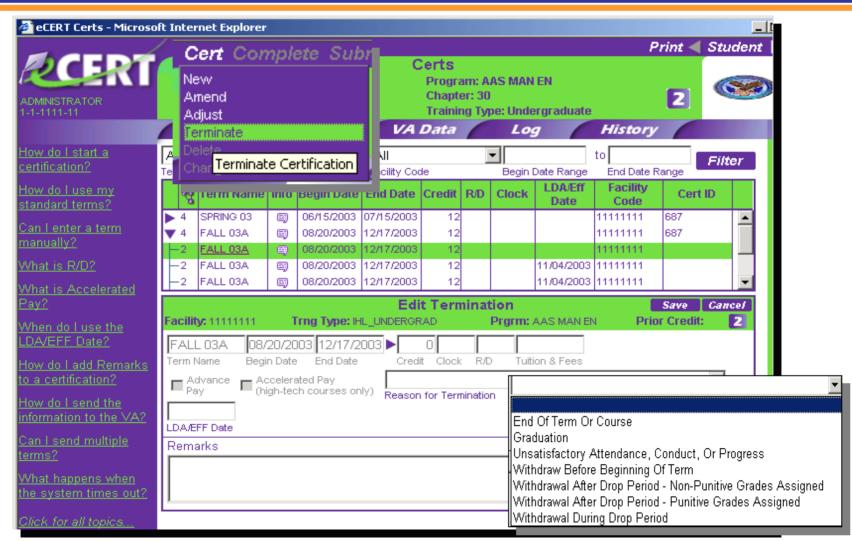








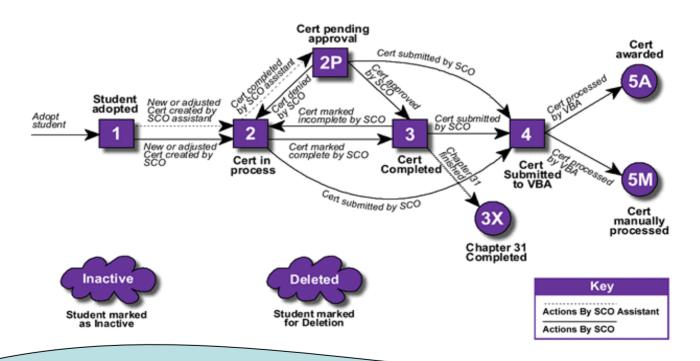








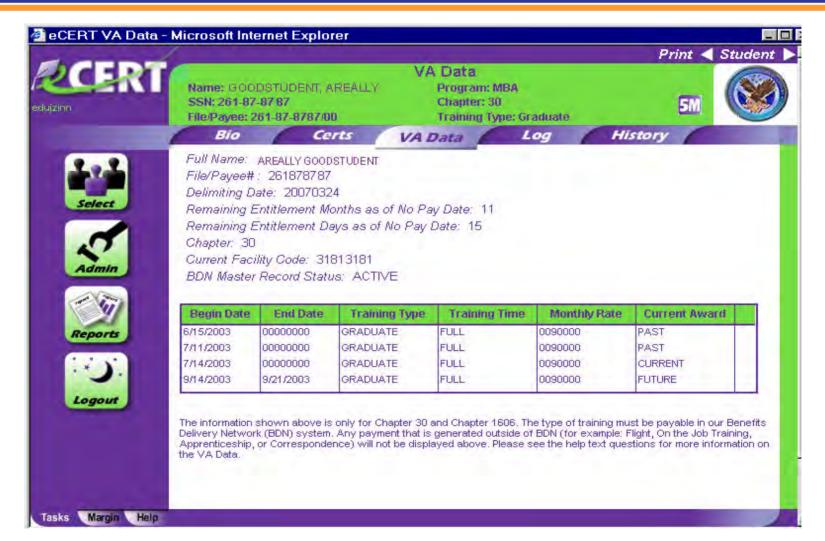
eCERT Status Chart



An outline of the VA-ONCE process can be viewed by clicking the button in the upper right hand corner of the screen.

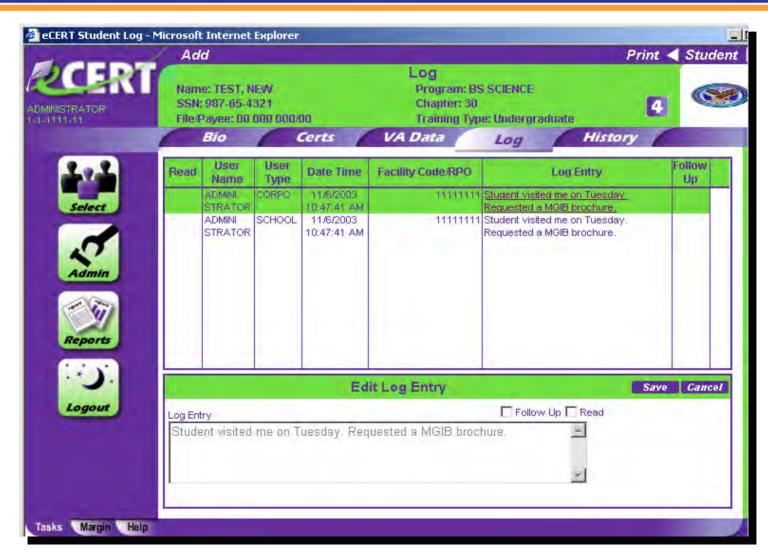
















History

VA Data

Program: AAS MAN EN

Chapter: 30

Training Type: Undergraduate

Log

3 History



Print Student

history of this student.

Name: BOND, JAME

File/Payee: 00 000 000/00

Certs

SSN: 525-25-2525

Bio

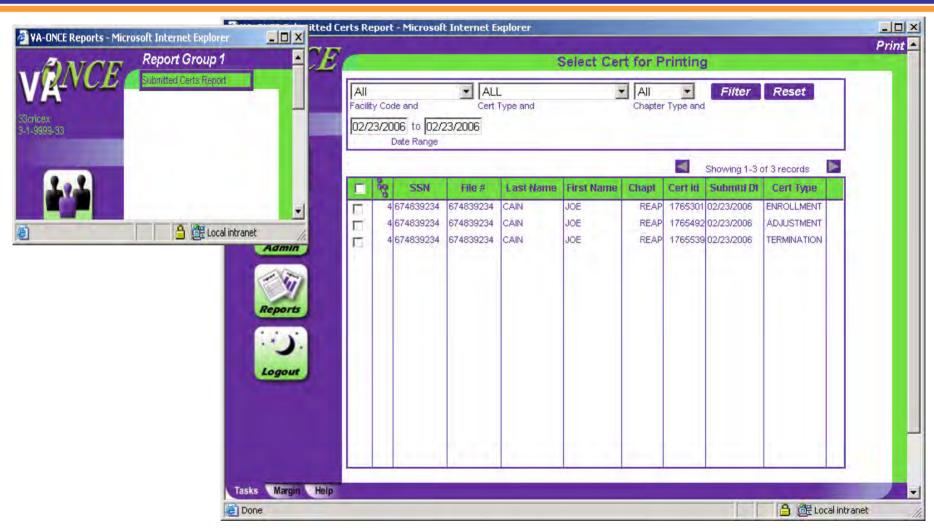
audit trail to see exactly when a certification was created or submitted.

User Name	elect to access Student biographic information			Event Type	Event Description	
ooor manie	Type	Code		Lion Typo	Lion Bootington	
ADMINIS	SCHOOL	10/29/2003 9:47:24 AM	1-1-1111-11	Complete	The term starting on 8/20/2003	
TRATOR					and ending on 12/17/2003 was	
					completed.	
ADMINIS	SCHOOL	10/29/2003 9:47:05 AM	1-1-1111-11	Enroll	A new Enrollment was created	
TRATOR					on 10/29/2003.	
ADMINIS	SCHOOL	9/22/2003 2:29:58 PM	1-1-1111-11	Submit	The term starting on 6/15/2003	
TRATOR					and ending on 7/15/2003 was	
					submitted.	
ADMINIS	SCHOOL	9/22/2003 2:29:42 PM	1-1-1111-11	Enroll	A new Enrollment was created	
TRATOR				A -15 4	on 09/22/2003.	
ADMINIS	SCHOOL	9/9/2003 9:41:08 AM	1-1-1111-11	Adjust	An Adjustment was added to	
TRATOR					the term starting on 08/20/2003	
ADMINIS	SCHOOL	9/9/2003 9:40:57 AM	1-1-1111-11	Submit	and ending on 12/17/2003. The term starting on 8/20/2003	
TRATOR	SCHOOL	9/9/2003 9.40.37 AM		Submit	and ending on 12/17/2003 was	
I I I I I I I I I I I I I I I I I I I					submitted.	
ADMINIS	SCHOOL	9/9/2003 9:40:33 AM	1-1-1111-11	Enroll	A new Enrollment was created	
TRATOR	0011002	0.012000 0.10.00 1		2711011	on 09/09/2003.	
ADMINIS	SCHOOL	9/9/2003 9:39:36 AM	1-1-1111-11	Adopt	Student Adopted	
TRATOR						
l						

Tasks Margin Help











Questions?





Measurement and Pay

Institutions of Higher Learning





Calculation of Training Time

• Undergraduates measured by VA, usually at 12 semester or quarter hours = full time.

• Graduate students are measured by VA based upon the training time certified by the school.



Graduate

• We first look at the full time measurement filed on the OLAF E01 screen.

• If the entry is "AS CERTIFIED" accept the school's certification as to the training time.



Graduate

If the term is of nonstandard length, we must compute "equivalent credit hours". Pay is based on which method gives the higher training time..



Standard Undergraduate Term

Training time always based on:

12 credit hours = full time

9 credit hours = three quarter time

6 credit hours = half time



Standard Terms

Standard Semester = 15 - 19 weeks.

Standard Quarter = 10 - 13 weeks.

Length of Term: Divide number of days in term by 7, disregarding remainders of 3 days or less, and adding one week for remainders of 4 days or more. Deduct one week for each one week break or holiday during the term.



Equivalent Semester Hours

Semester hours pursued during a term multiplied times 18, divided by length of the term in weeks.

Equivalent Quarter Hours

Quarter hours pursued during a term multiplied times 12, divided by length of the term in weeks.



Undergraduate Courses As Part Of Graduate Program

Apply the same principle of the nonstandard length. Pay based on whichever method gives the higher training time.



Examples

- June 9 July 28, 2004: 50 days divided by 7 = 7 weeks one day. Seven week session.
 - June 9 August 15, 2004: 68 days divided by 7 = 9 weeks 5 days. Ten week session.
 - May 12 July 28, 2004
 - 78 days divided by 7 = 11 weeks one day. Eleven week session.



Overlapping Sessions

 Combine equivalent hours only for periods where sessions overlap and pay accordingly.

May 15-July 15 (9 weeks) 3 sem hrs = ECH 6 sem hrs May 15-August 25 (15 weeks) 6 sem hrs = 1/2

Award: May 15 - July 15 (9 sem hrs = full time)

July 15 - August 25 (6 sem hrs = half time)



Interval Payment

- An interval is the period of time between regularly scheduled terms or other periods of instruction
- Pay intervals unless the interval exceeds 8 weeks, and the terms before and after the break is less than the break.
- A summer term may be divided into several summer sessions. A summer term interval which exceeds 30 days cannot be paid unless the the summer term is at least 8 weeks long.



Repeating Courses

- We will not pay a student to re-take a course which was previously satisfactorily completed.
- Doesn't matter whether or not the student received VA education benefits for the prior attempt.
- Students can repeat courses for which a D was previously earned if a C or better is required for the student's current program.
- Exception: when student is using the rounding out of terms rule during his/her last term in that program.



Supplemental Enrollment

- General. Supplemental enrollment exist whenever a student's approved program of education involves training at more than one school.
- The primary school must certify that it will give credit for the specific subjects taken at the supplemental school and that the subjects taken apply to the students objective.
- Each school, primary and supplemental, certifies the student for courses taken at their school/campus.



Dual Degrees

- If specific dual degrees/majors are listed in school's approved catalog along with the specific requirements for each, no additional approval action is required.
- If specific requirements not listed in approved catalog, then dual degrees/majors must be approved by the SAA on a case by case basis.



Rounding Out Of Terms

Generally, VA may not pay for courses that are not part of the claimant's program of education. However, for degree courses taken on a quarter, semester, or term basis, rounding out of terms is permitted. This means that a claimant may enroll in sufficient credit hours during his or her one last term to allow payment of (up to and including) full-time training.



Credit for Prior Training

- Schools must review all prior education and training.
- Student has no choice even if (s)he doesn't want prior credit transferred, school must do the transfer & evaluation.
- Schools are not required to grant transfer credit, but must evaluate it and grant it in accordance with the rules published in their approved catalog.
- Schools should accomplish this in first two terms of enrollment to avoid certifying the student for courses previously satisfactorily completed from transfers.



Deficiency, Remedial, & Refresher Courses

- Deficiency course: Secondary level course required to correct a deficiency in a particular subject matter.
- Remedial course: Secondary level course required to overcome a handicap such as in speech or hearing.
- Refresher course: A course previously taken during or prior to veteran's military service and in which significant technological advances have occurred, e.g., computer repair or programming.
- Courses must be necessary for or required prerequisites to pursuit of student's current program.

Measurement and Pay

Non-College Degree (NCD) Programs





Clock Hour Measurement

- Title 38 CFR 21.4270
 - Basically, Non-College Degree (NCD)
 Programs, not offered by an Institution of Higher Learning are measured on clock hours



Full Time Measurement

(Hours per Week)

- Classroom Theory
- 18 hrs = full time
- 13-17 = 3/4 time
- 9-12 = half time
- 5-8 = less than half, more than 1/4 time
- 1-4 = quarter time

- Shop Practice
- 22 hrs = full time
- 16-21 = 3/4 time
- 11-15 = half time
- 6-10 = less than half, more than 1/4 time
- 1-5 = quarter time



Computing Clock Hours

- One clock hour = 60 minutes of instruction.
- Schools organized on terms:
 - No more than 1 year at a time
 - Use student's schedule
 - Clock hours may differ each quarter
 - Total minutes per day (may include 10 minutes <u>between</u> classes
 - Total minutes per week and divide by 60



Questions?





Computing Clock Hours (Cont)

- Schools not on a term basis
 - Certify entire length of program
 - Computation simpler (no break between classes)
 - Divide weekly minutes by 60
 - Shop predominant programs: 15 min.
 breaks in morning & afternoon can be included in total hours. Shorter breaks allowed for part time enrollment.



Begin/End Date

Beginning date

• Starting date must be first day student actually in class. If student absent the first day of class, then you must change the beginning date to reflect the date student actually showed up for class the first time.

Enrollment interrupted

- Last date of attendance (LDA) last date student actually attended class.
- Includes terminations for unsatisfactory attendance. Termination date last date student was in class before violating your attendance policy.



Clock Hour Certification

- Proper Computation important:
 - Accurate payments
 - Length of program
 - Benefits may be paid for approved length plus 10%
- NCD students who must repeat courses/portions of programs due to failure/poor performance can receive benefits beyond the approved????????



Clock Hour Certification (Cont)

- Report new ending date with explanation in "Remarks" that student required to repeat a subject/portion of program due to failure/poor performance, including the number of additional hours required.
- Student must be making satisfactory progress in accordance with the school's approved academic standards



Credit for Prior Training

- Credit must be evaluated in all cases a student's request that credit not be evaluated or transferred is not relevant.
- Schools must evaluate all prior education and training.
- Schools generally have 2 semesters, 3 quarters or 24 weeks to report prior credit to VA.
- Schools are not required to grant credit under all circumstances. Schools must apply their own standards as approved by the SAA and grant credit as appropriate under their own rules.



Payment for Breaks

- School operates on a term basis, normal break pay rules apply (generally 8 week rule)
- School does not operate on a term basis, and school has a break designated as the break between one school year and the next, we cannot pay for that break no matter how short it may be.
- School does not operate on a term basis, and does not have a school year break, normal break pay rules apply.



Reminders

- Programs Must specifically be approved by SAA
- Students must be monitored for continued pursuit and progress
- School's progress standards must be clear enough to identify the point in time when a VA student's progress is unsatisfactory.
- Many standards rely on a GPA, a specific number of failures, or determine the point in time when the student cannot complete the course within the approved hours.
- Probationary periods cannot be indefinite.



Questions?



XYZ Case Studies





XYZ Case Studies

XYZ Case Studies

Tuesday March 28, 2006



Central Office Update





Central Office Update

Central Office Update Presentation

Vocational Rehabilitation And Employment





VR&E

VR&E Presentation

Regional Processing Office Update





Atlanta RPO

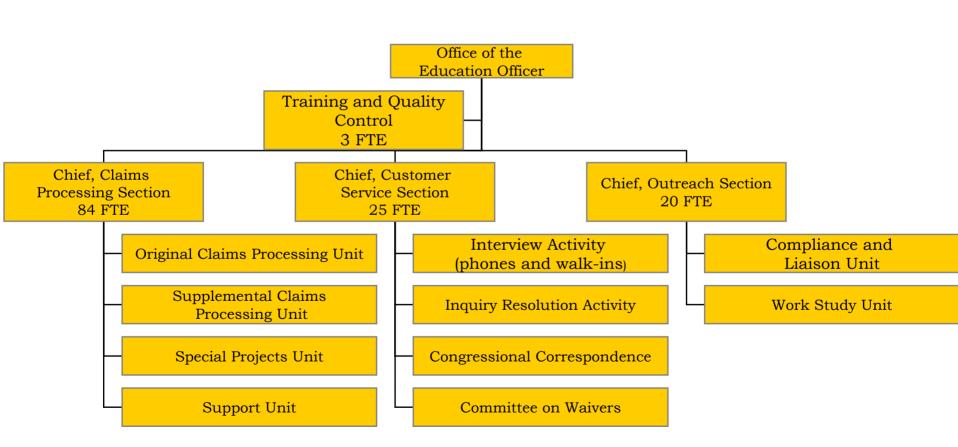
Six States, Puerto Rico, and VI

18.94% of National Workload

- Fiscal Year 2005
 - 102,442 paid trainees
 - Total payments –over \$550 Million



Atlanta RPO Structure





Atlanta RPO Performance

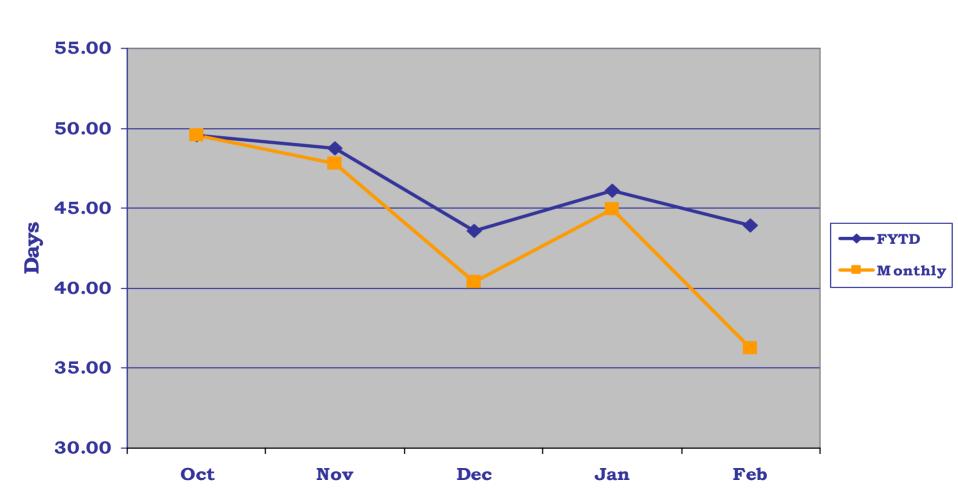
Timeliness	Goal	Actual Performance FYTD- Feb 06	Actual Performance Feb 06
Original Claims	25 Days	43.9 Days	36.2 Days
Supplemental Claims	13 Days	25.5 Days	25.7 Days
Payment Accuracy	95%	96.0%	
Overall Accuracy		96.6%	

Positive Trend In Timeliness



Original Timeliness

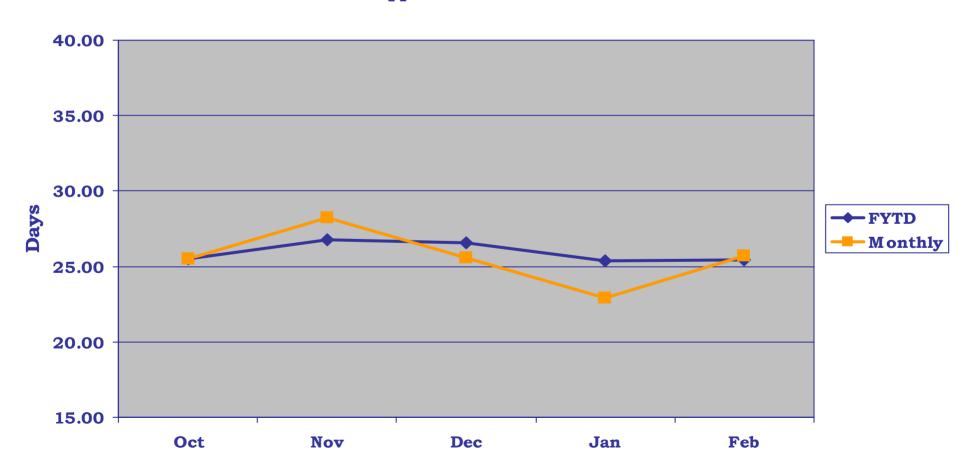
FY2006 Original Claim Timeliness





Supplemental Timeliness

FY2006 Supplemental Claim Timeliness





Highlights Claims Processing

• The second most productive office of the 4 RPOs as of February 2006

- Productivity Gains
 - Flexi-place
 - Increased Incentive Awards



Highlights Customer Service

Rerouting of Telephone Calls

- Allows for a block of time to conduct training for Customer Service Personnel
- 3rd Wednesday of the month



Highlights Work-Study

 Fully Consolidated all the Work-Study Program into the Atlanta Office

Two Work-Study Coordinators



Reserve Educational VA Regional Processing Office Assistance Program (REAP)

Interim Payment System

- Effective December 21, 2005
- First Priority Claims Claimant not eligible for any other education benefits

- Permanent Payment System
 - Effective February 21, 2006



Reserve Educational VA Regional Processing Office Assistance Program (REAP)

- Atlanta RPO
 - Approximately 1,300 as of Feb 2006

• Expect 1607 claims to increase



Questions?



Wednesday March 29, 2006



Chapter 1607

Reserve Education Assistance Program





What Is Chapter 1607?

• Chapter 1607 is a new education benefit that was enacted on October 28, 2004.

• Chapter 1607 is a DOD education program (Like 1606) which will be administered by the Department of Veterans Affairs.



Eligibility Criteria

- A member of a reserve component who serves on active duty after September 11, 2001, for a contingency operation and who served at least 90 consecutive days or more.
- Individuals are eligible as soon as they reach the 90 day point, regardless of duty status.



How Much Does Chapter 1607 Pay?

• Benefits paid under Chapter 1607 are a percentage of the Chapter 30 Category I three-year rate.

• Rates are based on the year the education training occurred. See the GI Bill website for historic rates.

www.gibill.va.gov



How Much Does Chapter 1607 Pay?

- Members serving 90 days but less than one year will receive 40% of the 3-year rate.
- Members who served more than one year, but less than 2 years will receive 60% of the 3-year rate.
- Members serving 2 years or more will receive 80% of the 3 year rate.



Disabled Members

Members released before the 90 day point for disability incurred during or aggravated by the line of duty will receive benefits at the 40% rate.



Benefits For FY 2006

Reservists who serve at least 90 days but less than 1 year of consecutive active duty	Reservists who serve at least 1 year but less than 2 years of consecutive active duty	Reservists who serve at least 2 years consecutive active duty
\$413.60	\$620.40	\$827.20
For full time training	For full time training	For full time training



Claimants training at less than ½ time and those who are still on active duty will receive a monthly rate equivalent to tuition and fees or the veteran rate whichever is less



Advance Payment

Currently Advance Payment is not available under Chapter 1607.



Chapter 1606 Kickers

Members already eligible for a Chapter 1606 kicker will receive the kicker amount in addition to the Chapter 1607 benefit amount.



Are Benefits Retroactive?

Benefits under Chapter 1607 are potentially retroactive to December 9, 2001, for a person who was called to duty on September 11, 2001.



Entitlement

- Members will receive 36 months of entitlement to Chapter 1607.
- The 48 month combined benefits entitlement rule applies to Chapter 1607.
- Restoration of entitlement applies to Chapter 1607 for those who withdrew from school because they were activated after becoming eligible for Chapter 1607.



Delimiting Date

- Chapter 1607 members do not have a delimiting date.
- Members are eligible for benefits as long as they remain within their component.
- Members leaving their component will lose eligibility.
- Members released for disability will have 10 years from the date of eligibility to use benefits.



• At the present time, all programs approved under Chapter 30 will apply to Chapter 1607 as well.

• Licensing and Certification is approved for Chapter 1607 for all exams taken on or after January 6, 2006.



Bar to Duplication of Benefits

 Members may not receive benefits under more than one program at a time.

• This includes Chapter 1607, Chapter 1606, Chapters 30, 32, 35, The Hostage Relief Act of 1980, and Chapter 31 Vocational Rehabilitation.



Members who have never applied for a VA Education benefit program (other than Chapter 35), should submit VA Form 1990 Application for Benefits.



Members already eligible for another VA EDU benefit type (other than Chapter 35), should submit VA Form 1995 and annotate "Chapter 1607" on the form.



Members should also submit supporting DD 214's and copies of original orders for qualifying active duty service.



Any training under Chapter 1606 will be deducted from the Chapter 1607 award if the claimant requests Chapter 1607 benefits for a period of training for which Chapter 1606 benefits were paid.



Questions?



Customer Service Section





Customer Service Section

Chris Richardson
 Chief of Customer Service
 Section

Sam Miller-Walton
 Unit Chief



Customer Service Section

Cindy Navarre
 Senior, Education Case Manager



How to Reach us by Telephone

 General Information and Inquiries

Toll Free Number – 888 442-4551



How to Reach us by Telephone

 Automated CERT Line for CH30 & CH1606

Toll Free - 877 823-8378



How to Reach us by Telephone

• Direct Deposit Line:

To start or change direct deposit for CH30 & 1606

Toll Free - 877 838-2778

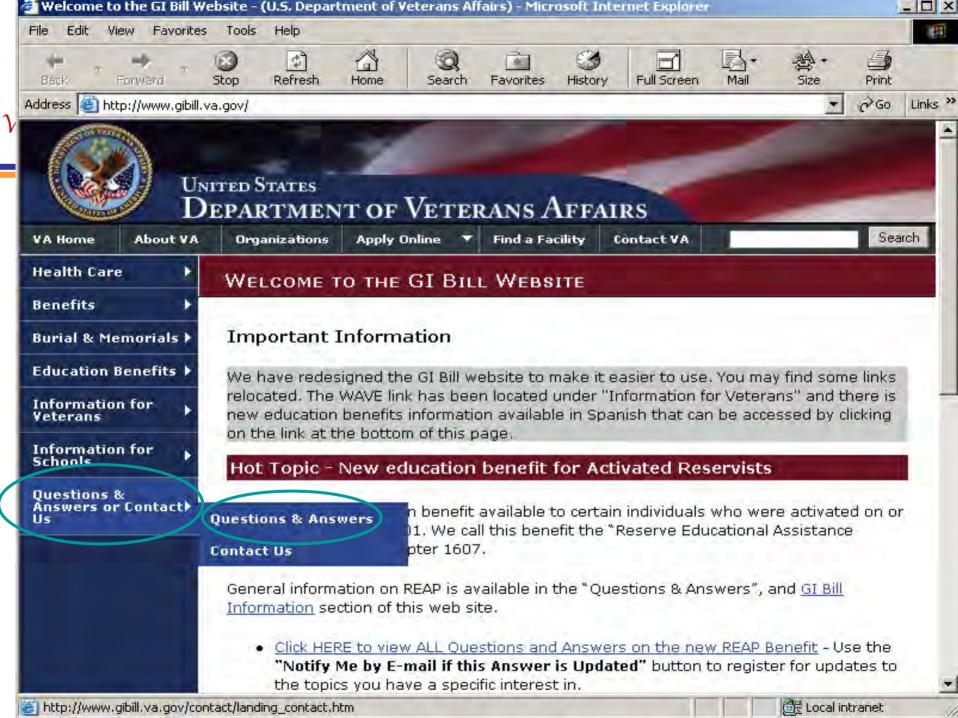


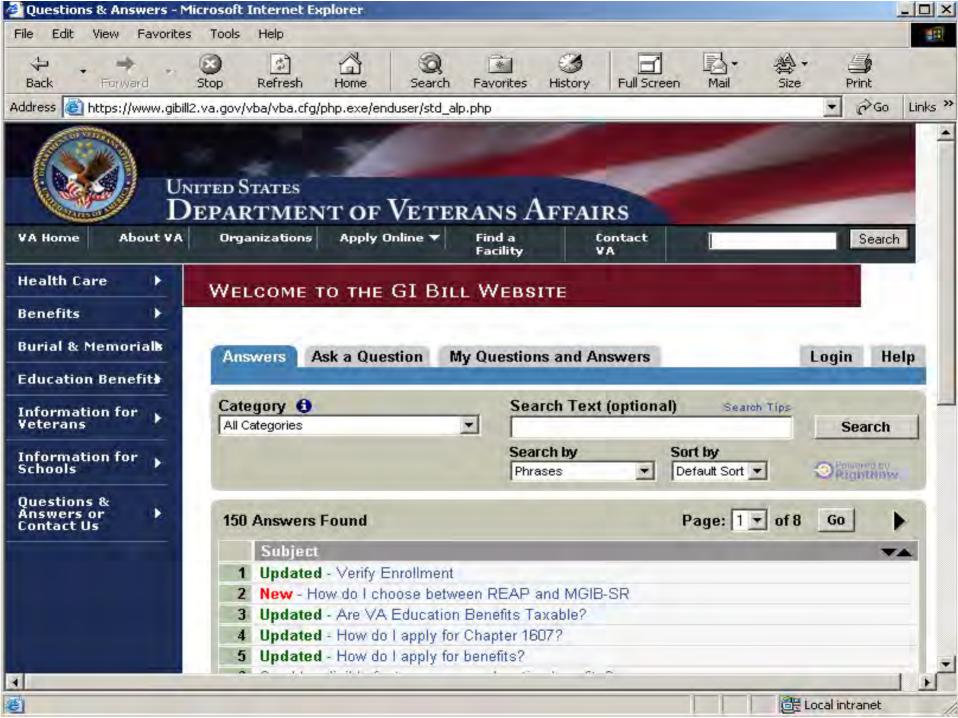
www.gibill.va.gov





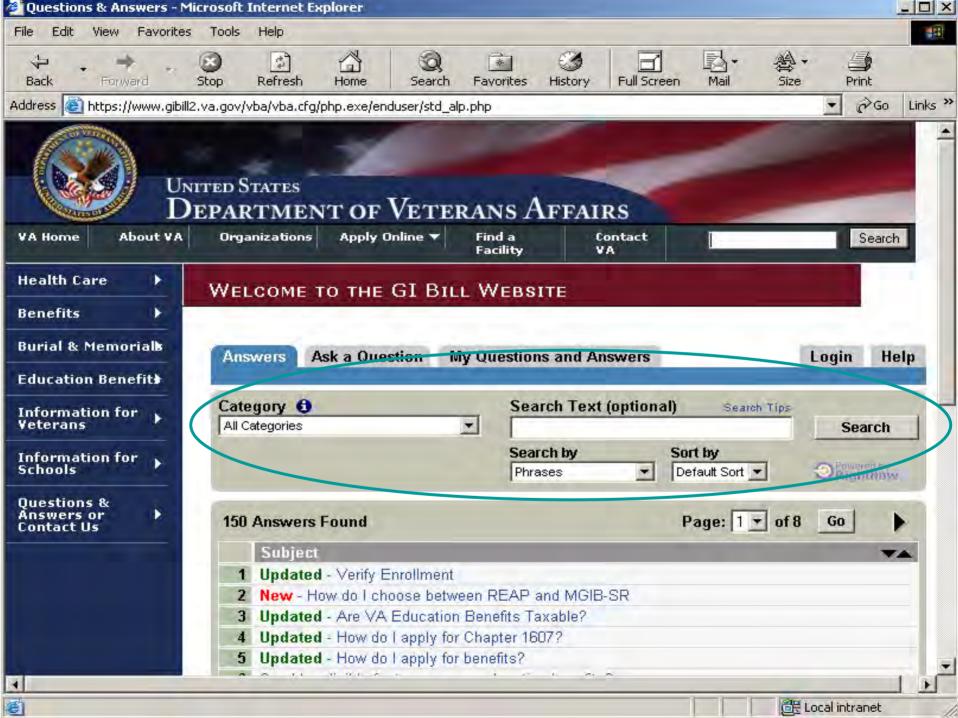
Ask questions & find answers

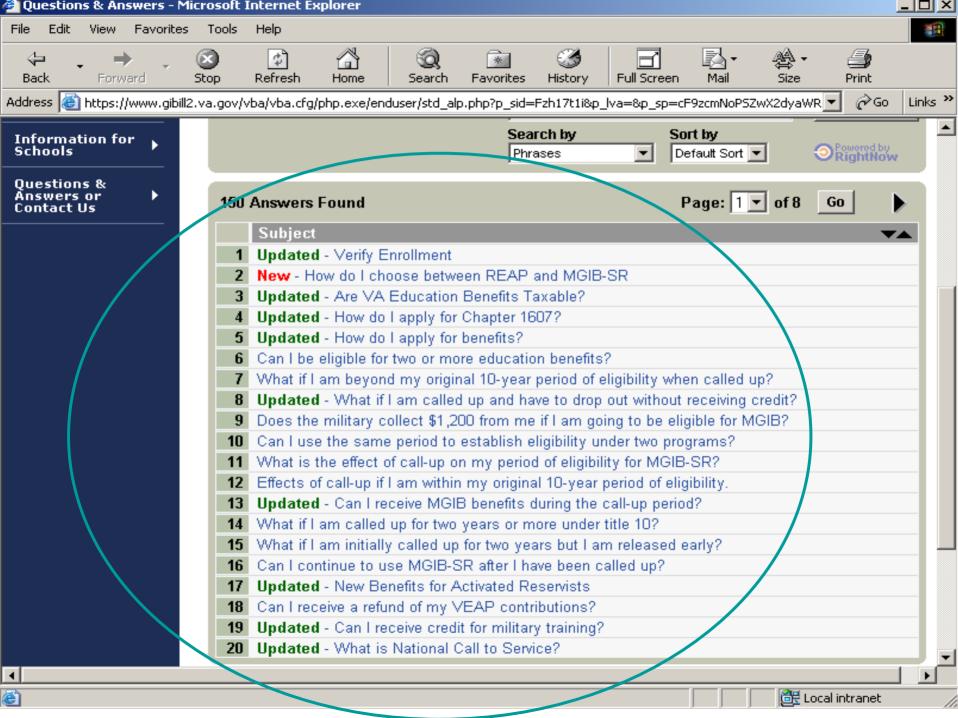






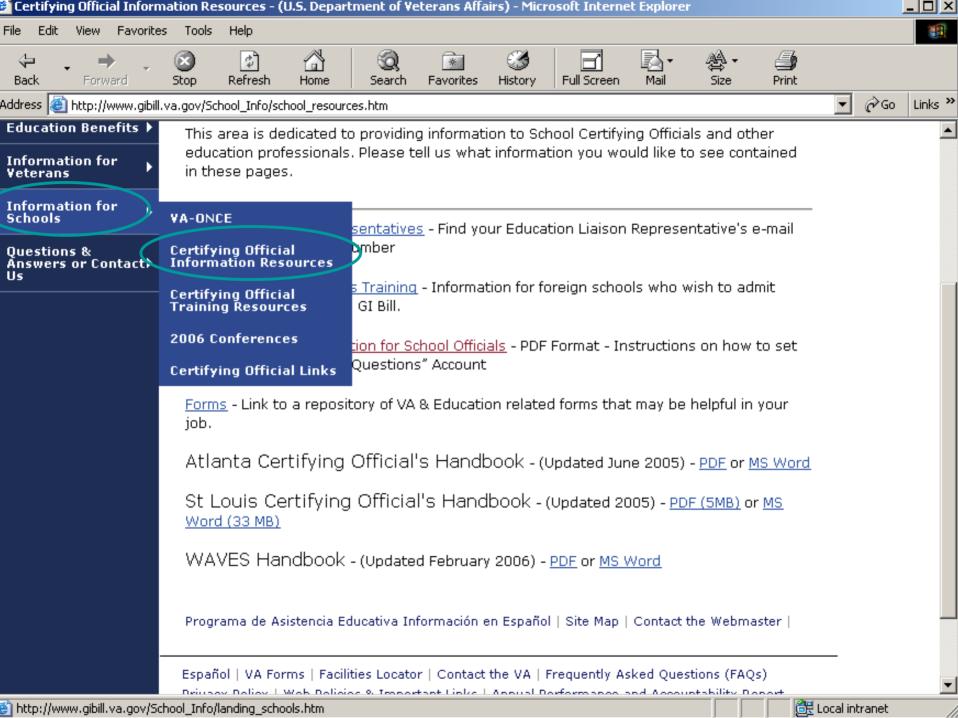
Search for answers through FAQ's

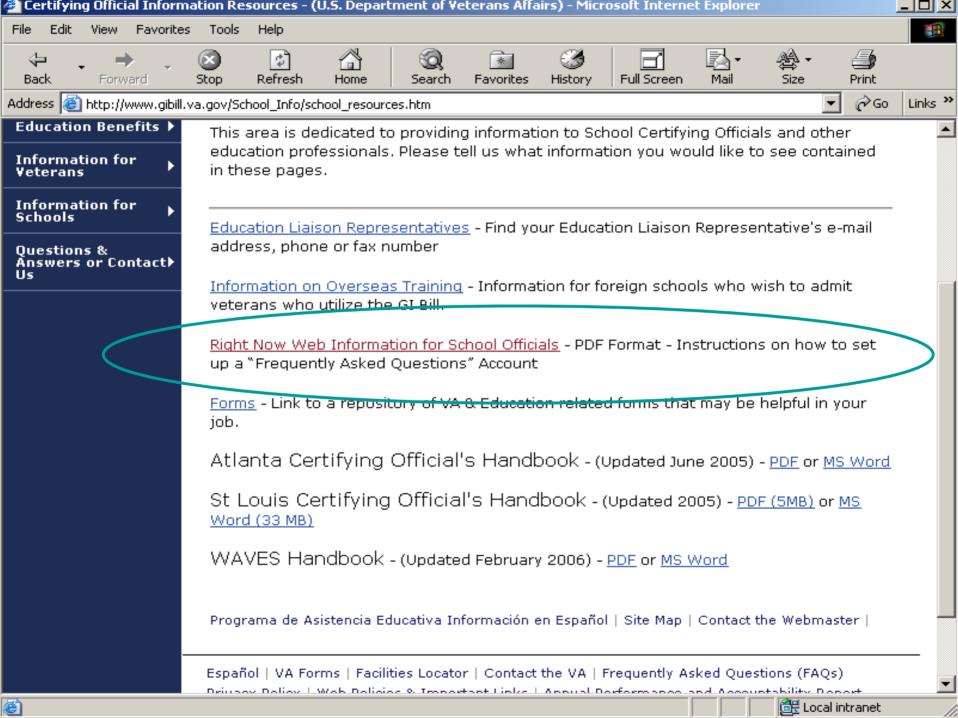


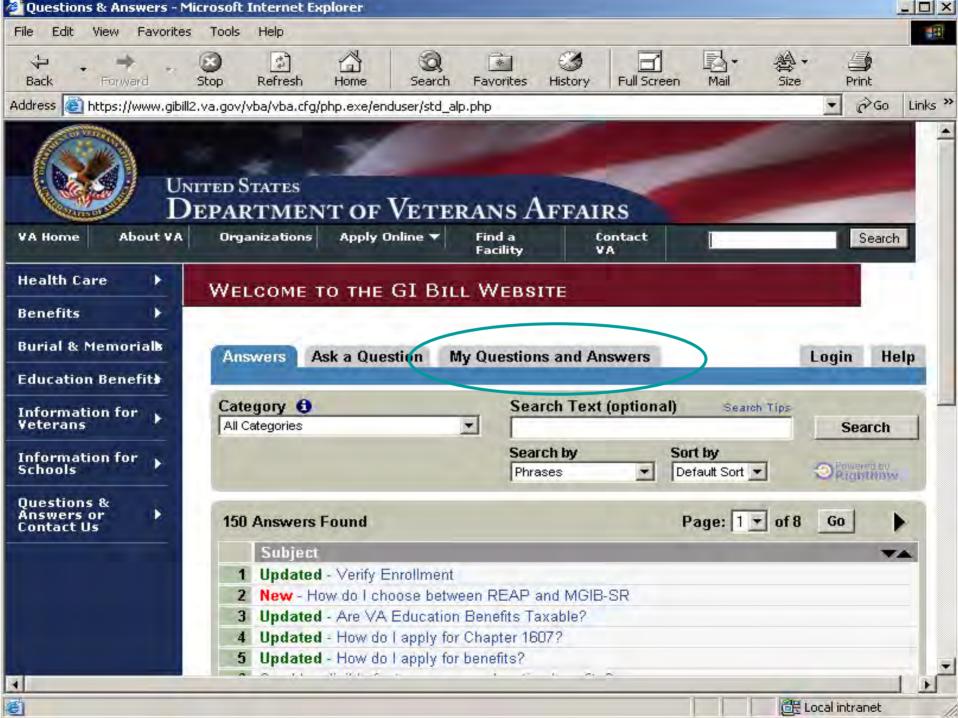


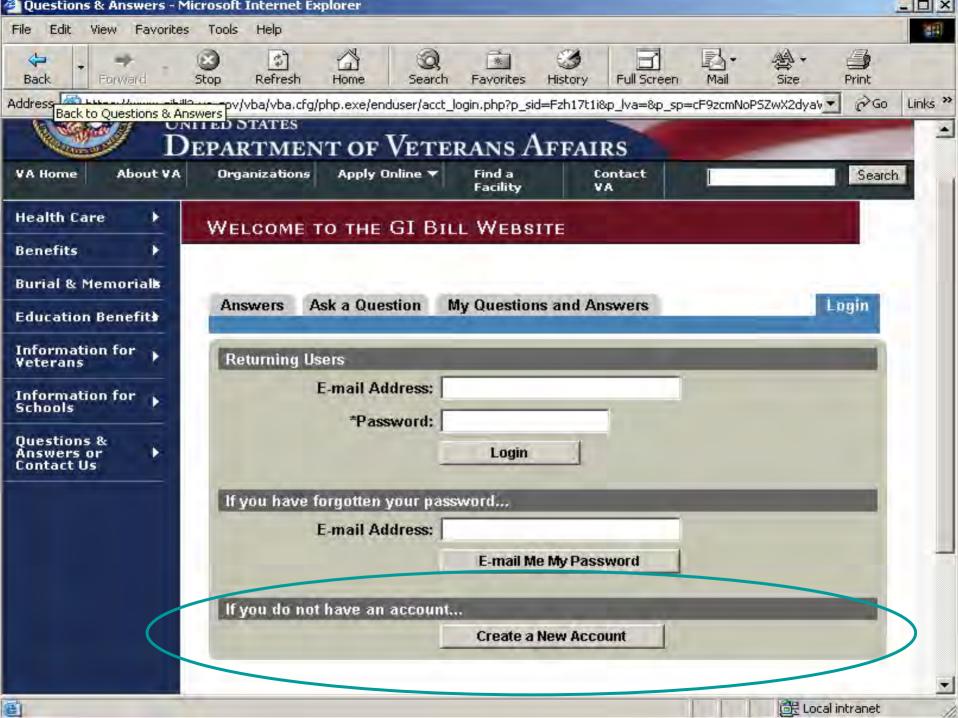


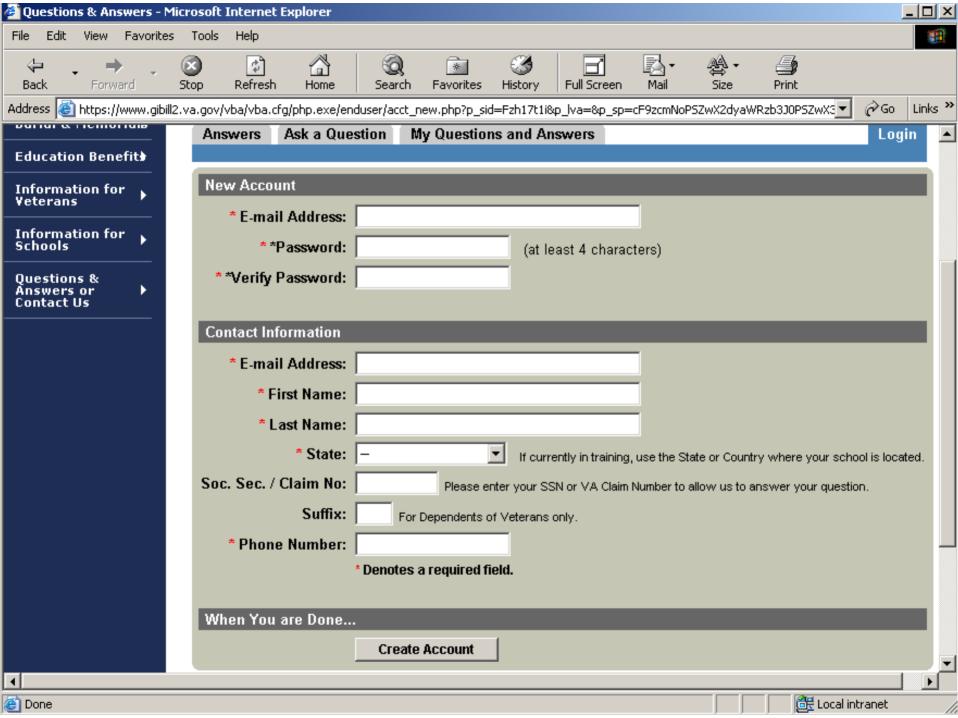
Priority for school officials who register





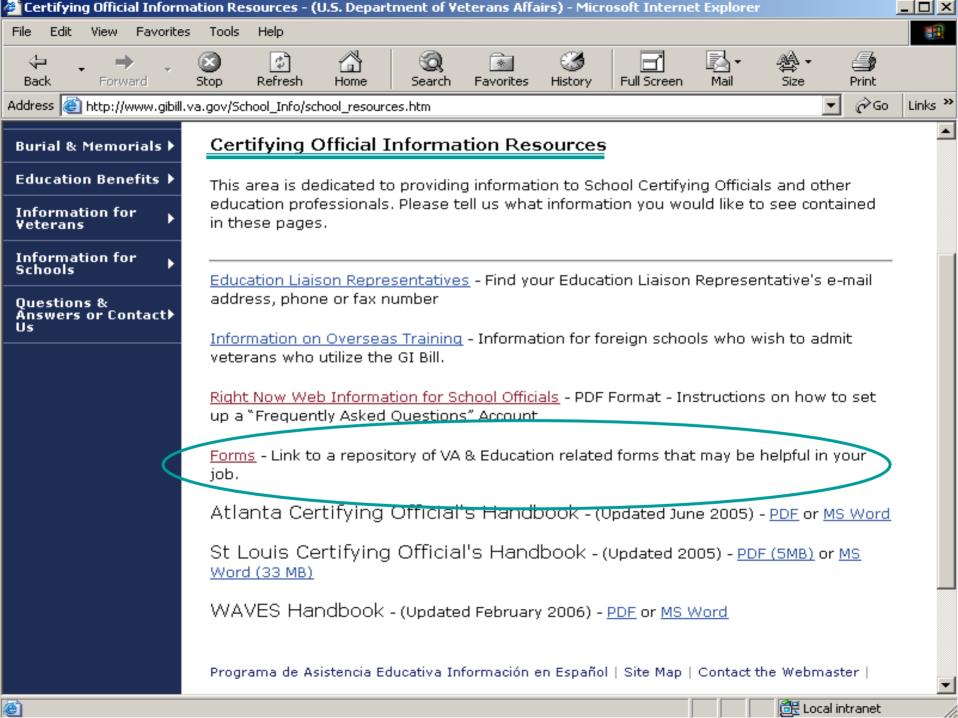


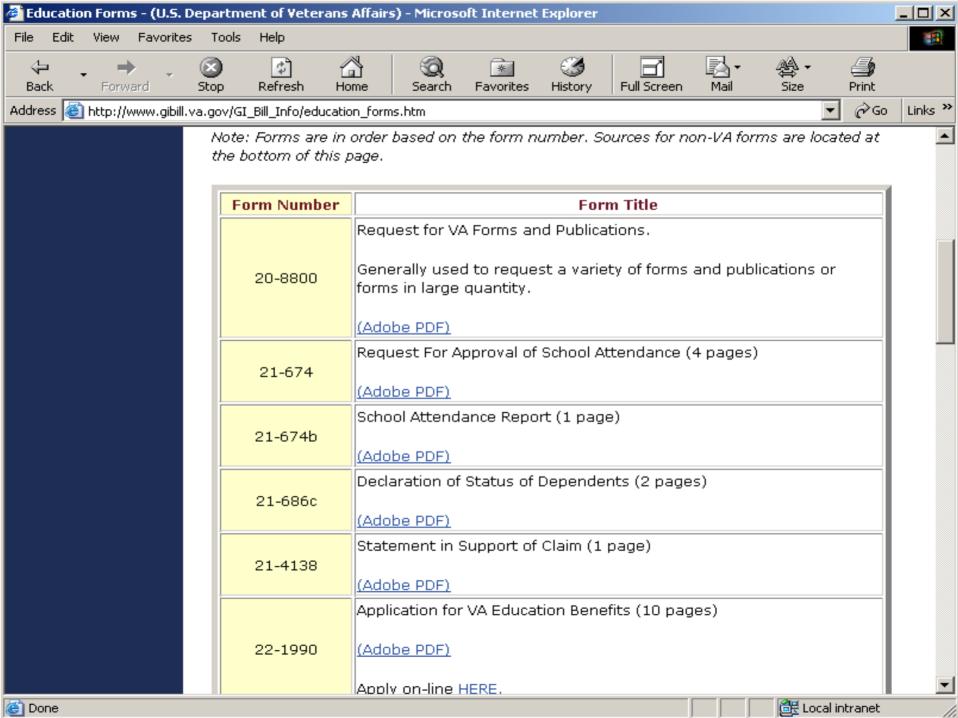






Download forms

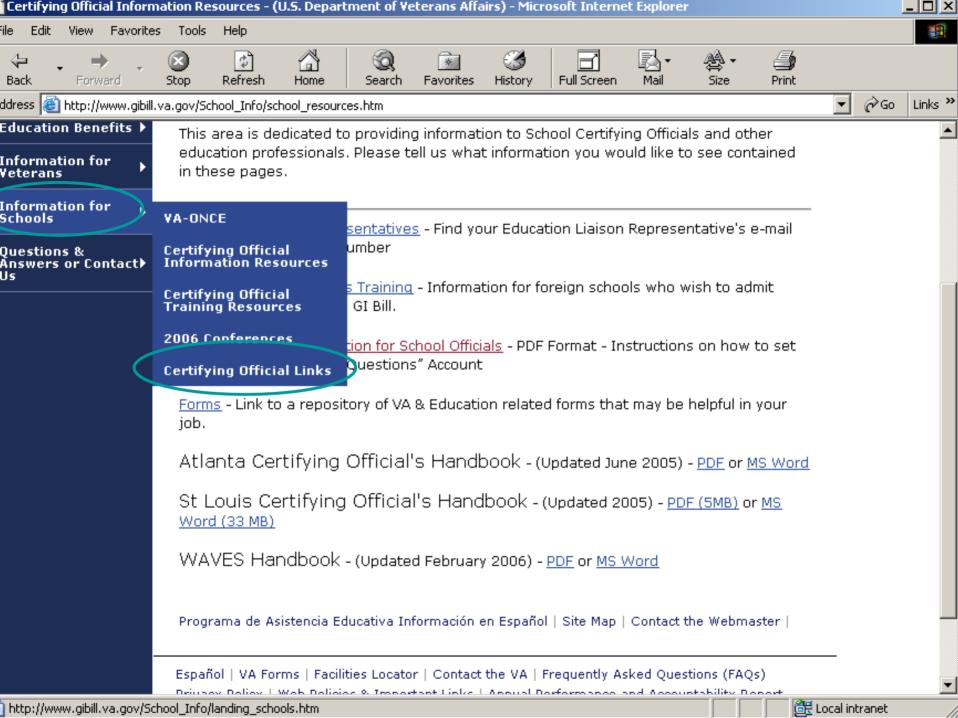


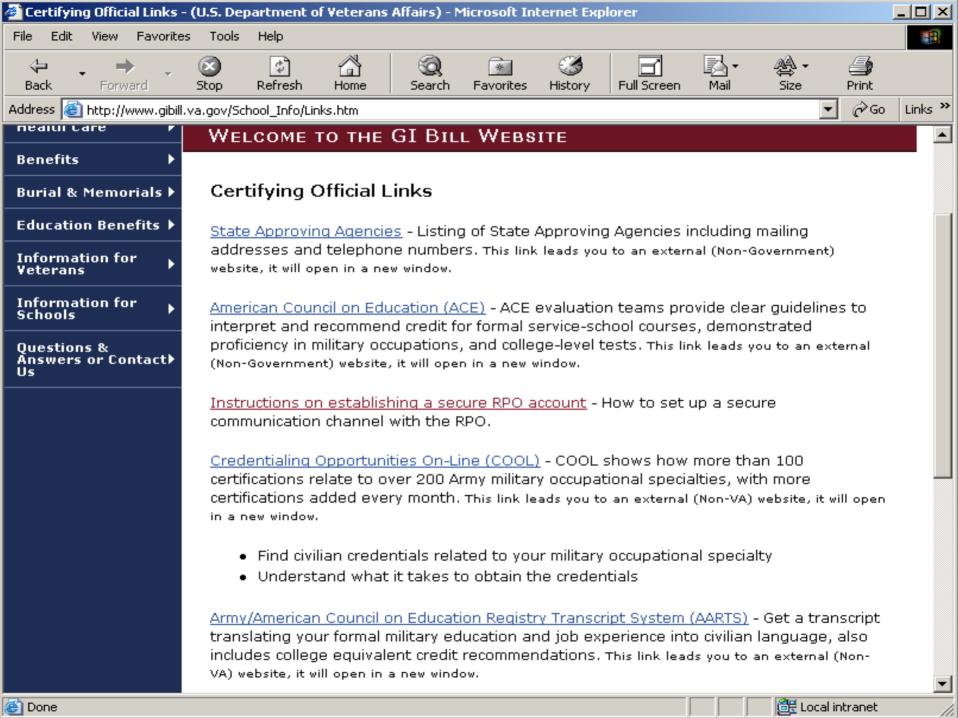




Web Access

Links to other websites







Web Access

**Note – e-mail addresses for the RPOs have been phased out



 Having a problem with the toll-free line?

 Can't get through and need to talk about a student?



 You can do an inquiry through RNW, or

 You can call a supervisor in the Customer Service Section



Having a problem with the response you received from the Case Manager on the phone or your RNW inquiry response or you want to report rude behavior displayed by the Case Manager?



**Call/e-mail Sam or Chris (refer to your list in your Agenda).



Your student advises he/she is having a hardship and needs money fast.....



****Ensure a hardship exists****



You can do a RNW inquiry,

or

 You can call Cindy or James (Persons 1 and 2 on your list)



Need help with VA Once – your computer is down or it blew up.....?



Contact your ELR, or

• Contact the Chief Education Liaison Officer (CELO), Linda McAllister



 Having a problem certifying in VA Once?



Contact your ELR, or

• Contact the Chief Education Liaison Officer (CELO), Linda McAllister



Include the VA file number for CH35 recipients. If you do not have the file number, include the vet's SSN along with the dependent's information.



Refer to the document date when asking about data you forwarded by VA Once. Also include the ID # in case we need to retrieve it.



In the summary field – type School Official so your inquiry will receive priority attention.



CH35 recipients in an NCD program - must certify their attendance monthly. Must complete the Certification of Attendance form or call the VA and speak with an ECM.



The earliest date to certify attendance for all educational programs is the last day of the month.



Interval payments [if applicable] are processed with the subsequent (next) award.



If the student complains that he/she has not been paid: Ask if he has received an award letter. If he has and he is CH30/1606/NCD -CH35, ask if he/she has certified his/her attendance.



Unanticipated events experienced by the student such as an eviction notice, national disaster [home on fire, flooding, etc], severe illness, death in family.....



• A supplemental claim that is 60 days old and we owe money.

• A first-time claim that is 90 days old and the claimant is due payment for 2 months or more (excludes CH35).



***** There are always exceptions to the rule.

If in doubt, consult with an ECM *****



Questions?



WAVE

Web Automated Verification of Enrollment





www.gibill.va.gov







WAVE

Education Benefits

Veterans Benefits & Services

Welcome to the GI Bill Web Site.

IMPORTANT- New education benefit for Activated Reservists -- H.R. 4200 created a new education benefit that we call the "Reservistance December of December 1507. This new program makes certain individuals who were activated after September 2001 either et WAVE link (DHS) and V about chapter this new benefit and at this time we are unable to provide more than general information about chapter the december of DOD and DHS to get this program implemented.

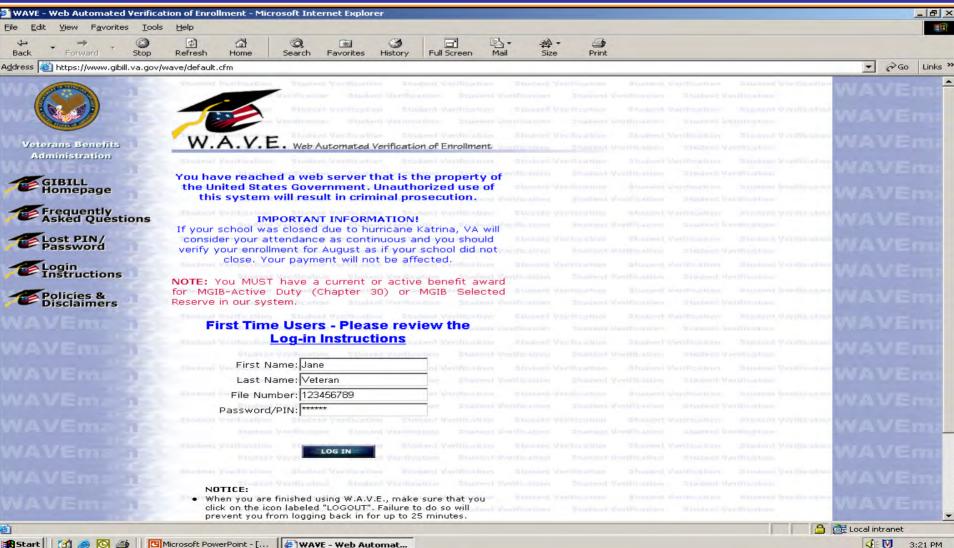
We have some questions and answers in our "Ask a Question and Find Answers" section and will continue to add more questions to this sect additional information becomes available. If you don't see your question listed we probably DO NOT have an answer at this time:

NOTE: The following links will open in a new window, just close that window to return to this page.



https://www.gibill.va.gov/

wave





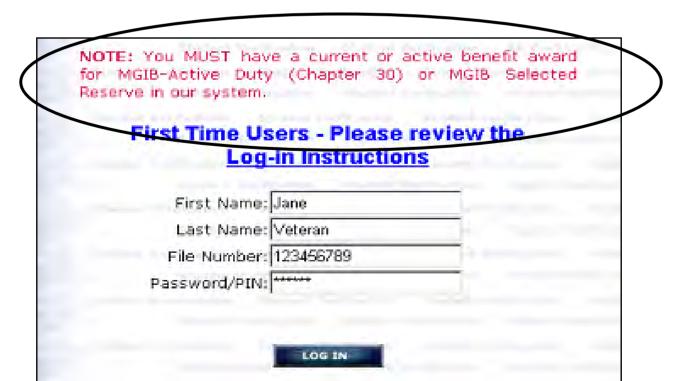
Log-In

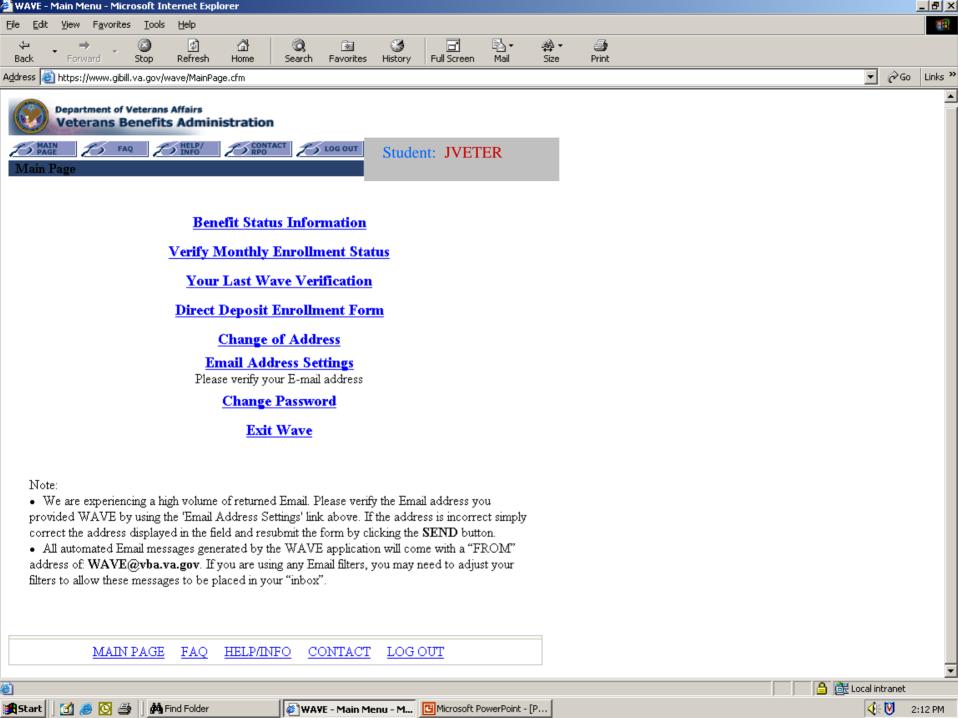
Firs	t Time Users - Please	review the
	Log-in Instruction	ons
	First Name: Jane	
	Last Name: Veteran	
	File Number: 123456789	
Pa	ssword/PIN:	



Log-In

The claimant must have an active MGIB or MGIB/SR award to access the WAVE system.







Benefit Status Information

Verify Monthly Enrollment Status

Your Last Wave Verification

Direct Deposit Enrollment Form

Change of Address

Email Address Settings

Please verify your E-mail address

Change Password

Exit Wave



Benefit Status Information

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Direct Deposit Enrollment Form

Change of Address

Email Address Settings

Please verify your E-mail address

Change Password

Exit Wave



Benefit Status Information





Your School Attendance:

The following information is taken directly from your VA record. The dates displayed may or may not actually represent dates your training started or stopped. For example, if you were paid across a break the date will not show the start of the next semester; and a date of October 1, generally represents a rate change. Due to space limitations we have only displayed a limited amount of information.

Start Date:	End Date:	Credits:	Status:
Sep-01-2005		3	Full Time
Oct-01-2005	The same of the sa	3	Full Time
Oct-10-2005	Nov-08-2005	5	Full Time

Enrollment Requiring Verification:

Start Date:	End Date:	Credits)	Status:
November-1-2005	November-8-2005	5	Full Time



Verify Monthly Enrollment Status

Your Last Wave Vernication

Direct Deposit Enrollment Form

Change of Address

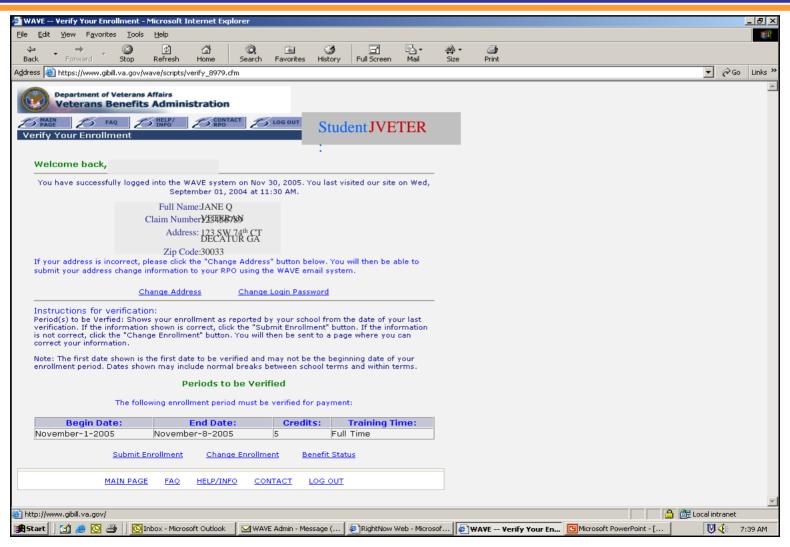
Email Address Settings

Please verify your E-mail address

Change Password



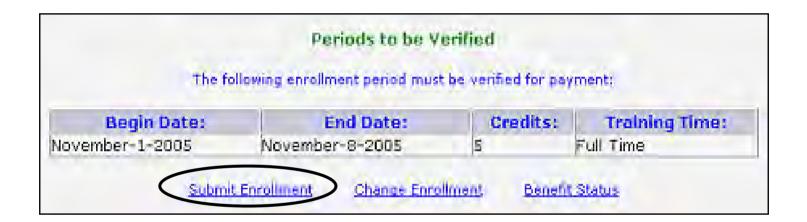
Verify Monthly Enrollment Status



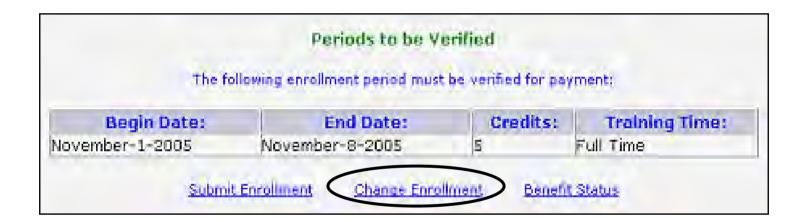


	Periods to be Y	erified	
The fo	ollowing enrollment period mus	t be verified for pa	yment:
Begin Date:	End Date:	Credits:	Training Time:



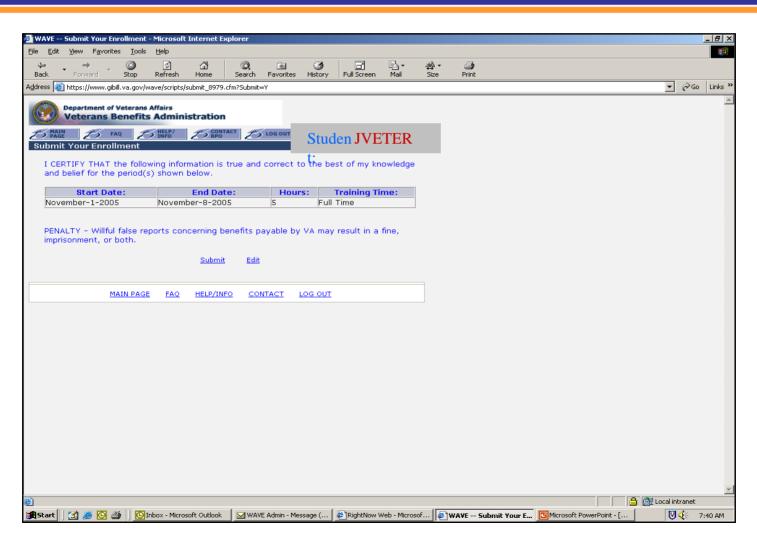








Submit Enrollment





Submit Enrollment

I CERTIFY THAT the following information is true and correct to the best of my knowledge and belief for the period(s) shown below.

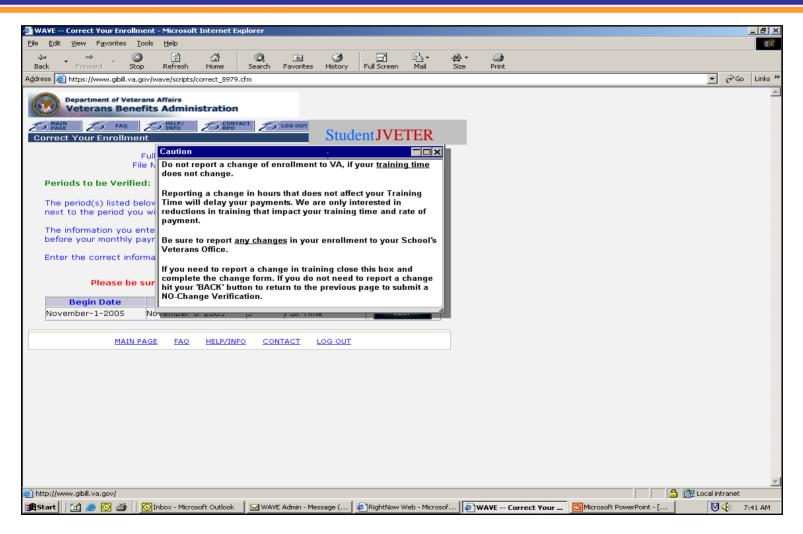
Start Date:	End Date:	Hours:	Training Time:
November-1-2005	November-8-2005	5	Full Time

PENALTY - Willful false reports concerning benefits payable by VA may result in a fine, imprisonment, or both.

Submit

Edit







Caution

Do not report a change of enrollment to VA, if your training time does not change.

Reporting a change in hours that does not affect your Training Time will delay your payments. We are only interested in reductions in training that impact your training time and rate of payment.

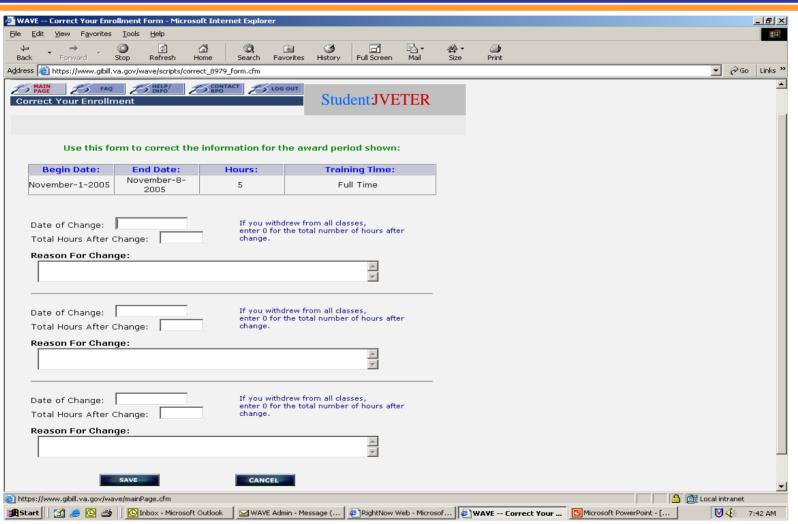
Be sure to report <u>any changes</u> in your enrollment to your School's Veterans Office.

If you need to report a change in training close this box and complete the change form. If you do not need to report a change hit your 'BACK' button to return to the previous page to submit a NO-Change Verification.











November-1-2005			Training Time:
November-1-2005	November-8- 2005	5	Full Time
Date of Change: Total Hours After Ch Reason For Change		enter 0 for th change.	ew from all classes, e total number of hours after



Begin Date:	End Date:	Hours:	Training Time:
November-1-2005	November-8- 2005	5	Full Time
Date of Change: Total Hours After C Reason For Chang	The state of the s	enter 0 for th change.	e total number of hours after



Begin Date:	End Date:	Hours:	Training Time:
November-1-2005	November-8- 2005	5	Full Time
Total Hours After C	(hange)	change.	e total number of hours after



Begin Date:	End Date:	Hours:	Training Time:
Vovember-1-2005	November-8- 2005	5	Full Time
Date of Change: Total Hours After C	thange:	enter 0 for the change.	e total number of hours after



Verify Monthly Enrollment Status

Your Last Wave Verification

Direct Deposit Enrollment Form

Change of Address

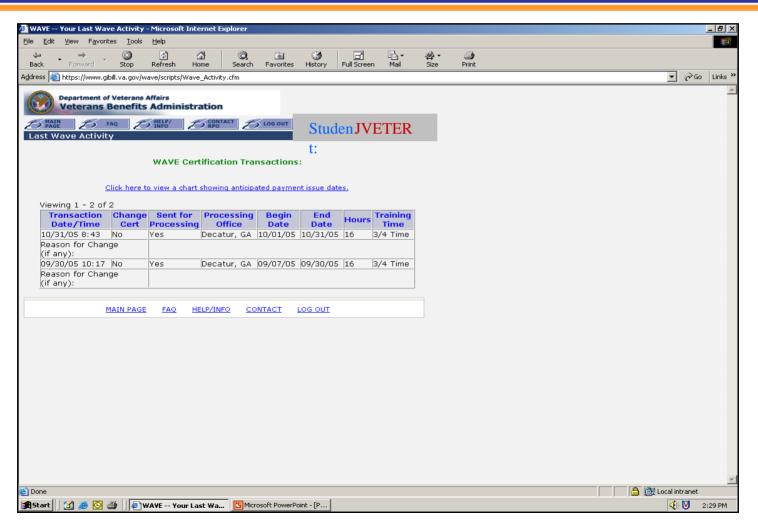
Email Address Settings

Please verify your E-mail address

Change Password



Last WAVE Verification





Verify Monthly Enrollment Status

Your Last Wave Verification

Direct Deposit Enrollment Form

Change of Address

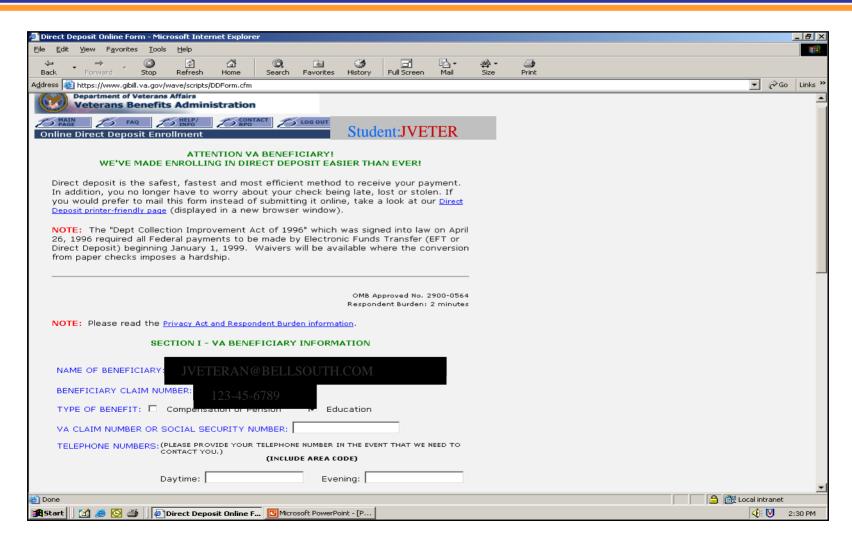
Email Address Settings

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Change Password

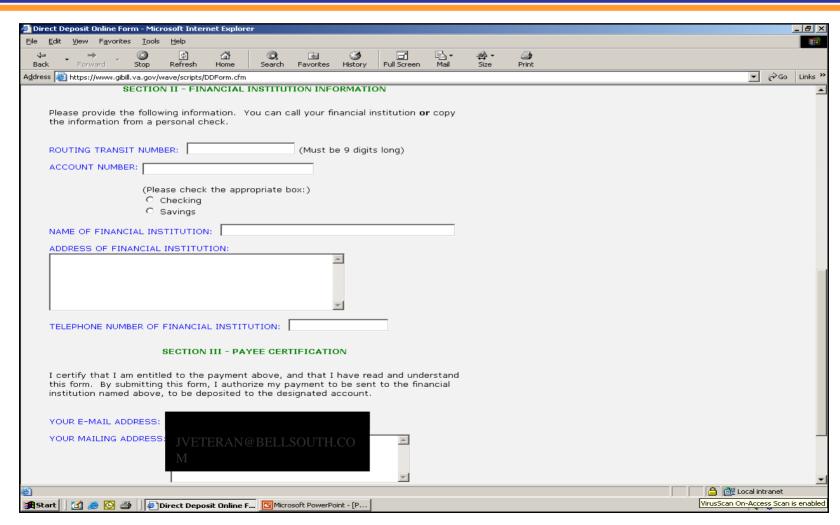


Direct Deposit Enrollment Form





Direct Deposit Enrollment Form





Verify Monthly Enrollment Status

Your Last Wave Verification

Direct Deposit Enrollment Form

Change of Address

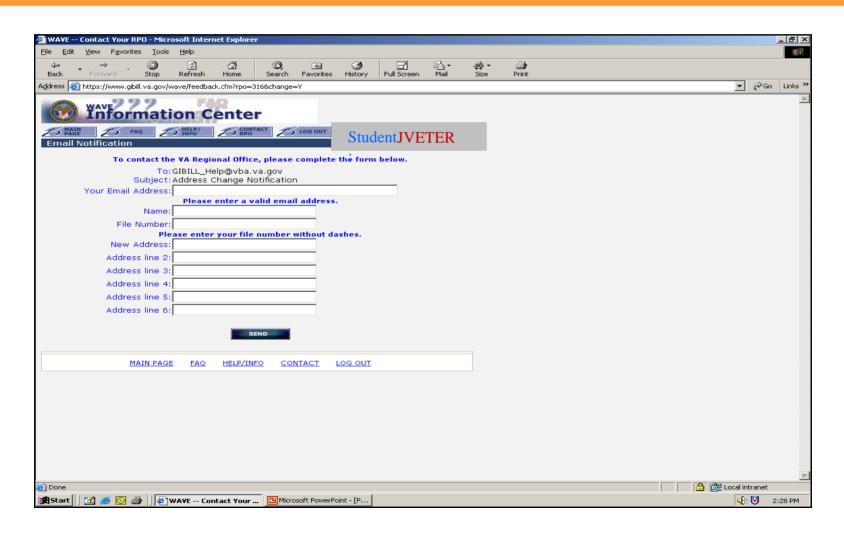
Email Address Settings

Please verify your E-mail address

Change Password



Change of Address





Verify Monthly Enrollment Status

Your Last Wave Verification

Direct Deposit Enrollment Form

Change of Address

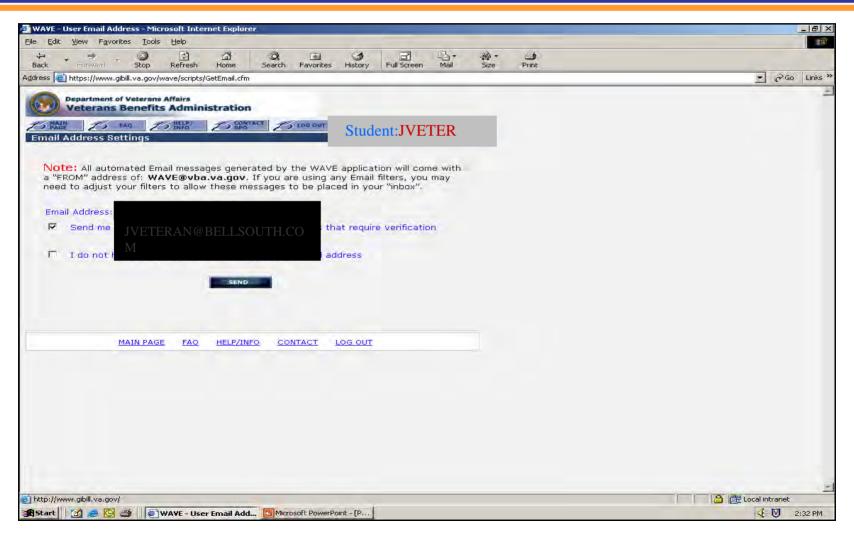
Email Address Settings

Please verify your E-mail address.

Change Password



E-Mail Address Settings





Verify Monthly Enrollment Status

Your Last Wave Verification

Direct Deposit Enrollment Form

Change of Address

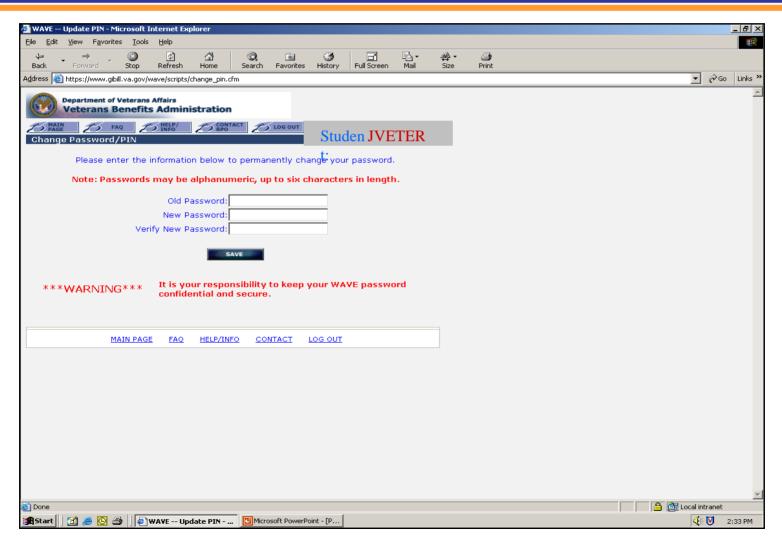
Email Address Settings

Please verify your E-mail address

Change Password



Change Password





Verify Monthly Enrollment Status

Your Last Wave Verification

Direct Deposit Enrollment Form

Change of Address

Email Address Settings

Please verify your E-mail address

Change Password



Questions?



Work-Study





VA Work-Study

 Offers additional allowance to students for performing services in VA related activities

 Open to students receiving education benefits at ¾ time or more under
 CH 30, 31, 32, 35, 1606, & 1607



Eligibility

- Receiving education benefits at ¾ or more rate under CH 30, 31, 32, 35, 1606, 1607
- No payments for hours worked after delimiting date
- No further work should be permitted if student terminates school attendance
- VA should be notified immediately if student drops to less than ¾ time



Work-Sites

- VA Facilities
- Work-study students can be used anywhere within VA: regional offices, hospitals, outpatient centers, data processing center, etc.
- One Point of Contact (POC) or Supervisor



Chapter 1606 Administration

- CH 1606 recipients may work at National Guard and Reserve Facilities
- Duties include completing NOBE's or reporting through channels information concerning a six-year commitment
- Must be supervised by a DOD, Coast Guard or National Guard official



Educational Institutions

- All duties must deal directly with assisting in the processing of VA paperwork.
- Should be supervised by the VA Certifying Official
- May provide Outreach distribution of information regarding all benefits and services administered by VA



Other non-VA Facilities

- Work-study students may perform outreach services under the supervision of a VA employee
- Outreach means the distribution of information regarding all benefits and services administered by VA and "other government programs beneficial to veterans"



Work-Study Procedures New Applicant

- Application (VA Form 22-8691) (Covers the student's current certified period of enrollment)
- Include a Job Description with the following:
 - Work-Site Location
 - Supervisor's Name and Telephone Number
 - Supervisor's Fax Number
- Evidence of ³/₄ time enrollment in school
- Applicants using education benefits for the first time must have award processed prior to work-study contract



Returning Students

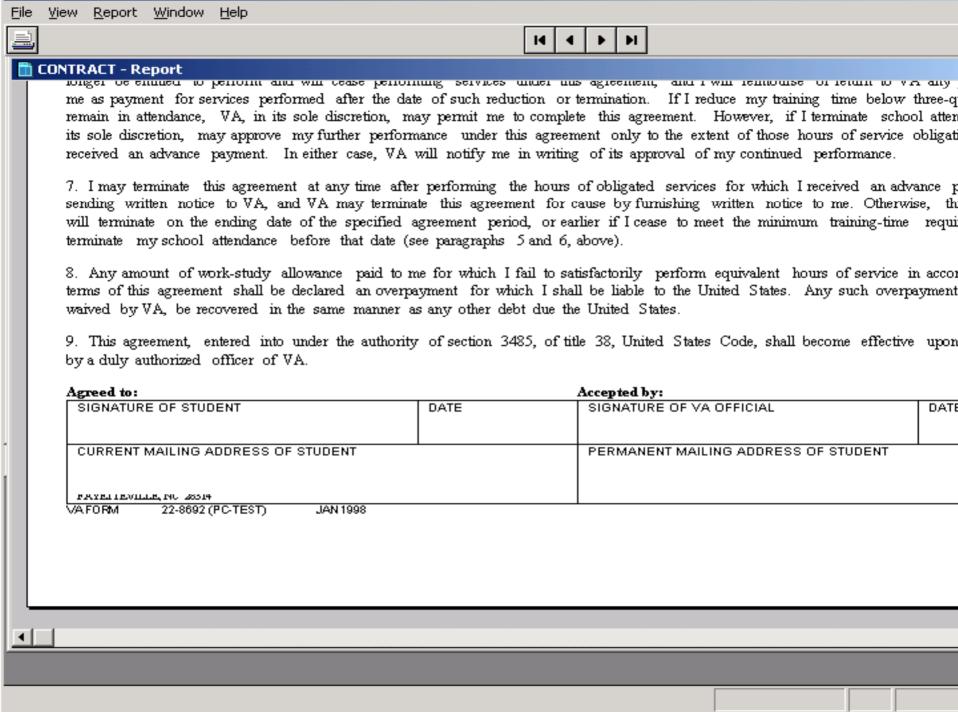
- Submit new application before expiration of current contract.
- New contract will not be processed until the final time record has been received.
- Make sure the final time sheet is clearly marked "FINAL"



Contract

- Work-Study Agreement (Contract) will be faxed to work-site
- Student must sign the agreement and fax back to Work-Study Unit. (Students should NOT submit blank contracts with their signatures on them)
- Payments cannot be made until signed contract is received in RPO.

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Timesheets

- Timesheets should be controlled by the Supervisor.
- Supervisor should verify timesheets and fax to Atlanta when 50 hours has been completed or up to 150 hours
- Check cumulative totals for accuracy
- Supervisors are responsible for insuring hours are worked and include only duties of approved position description
- Do not alter the timesheet in any way



Advance Payment

- Student can elect advance payment of 50 hours before starting work
- Students may receive only one advance payment per contract period
- Supervisor should immediately notify VA if student does not begin working or terminates position
- RPO must have a signed contract to issue an advance payment



Payments

- Maximum hours in contract 25 times the weeks in the enrollment period
 - 12 week term $25 \times 12 = 300$ hours
- Yearly maximum 1,300 hours
- Payments are made for each 50 hours worked or up to 150 hours
- CH 31 and CH 35 will take longer than
 CH 30 and 1606



Timesheet Accuracy

- Hours worked in hours (not minutes)
 - (See following example)
- Submit timecard when 50 hours reached
- Continue adding hours and record cumulative total
- Student and supervisor should initial
- Accuracy speeds up processing
- Use entire sheet before beginning another

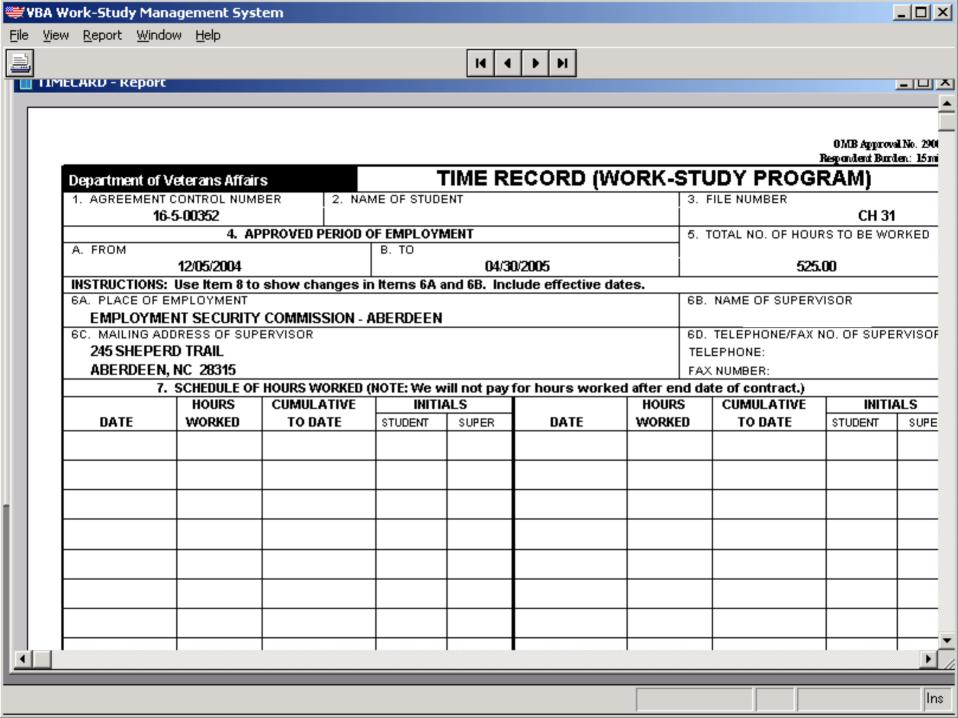


Timesheet

Enter hours as shown below:

Minutes		Enter o		Enter	
	15	.25		1/4	
_	30	.50		$\frac{1}{2}$	
_	45	.75		3/4	

- -Ex: 5 hours and 15 minutes = 5.25
- All work should be in 15 minute increments





Contacts

- Payment Inquiry 1-888-442-4551
- Fax 404-929-3136 (Work-study Only)

- Work-Study Coordinator/VARO Contact
 - James Smedley: james.smedley@vba.va.gov



Work Study Specialists

- •Alabama/Florida Mike Rumph
 - •Mike.Rumph@vba.va.gov
- •Florida/North Carolina Linda Wiggins
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- •Georgia/Puerto Rico Deborah Mouchet
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Questions?

